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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied regularly to every member of the following Societies:—PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND, SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, OTAGO PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, and TASMANIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

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## A MATTER OF IMPORTANCE.

## INSETS FOR THE "C. &amp; D."

WE wish to state clearly to advertisers the unique advantage of the approaching Summer Number of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. It is that we can receive for stitching in with it circulars or price-lists got up in any style of printing, whether plain or in colours, and upon paper selected by the advertisers. Our only stipulation is that the pages must be of a certain size. This is a matter of importance for several reasons. We shall name but three:—

*First.*—Insets are distributed in this way much more cheaply and with a mere fraction of the trouble there is by posting them singly.

*Second.*—Insets placed in the C. & D. Summer Number become part and parcel of a journal which is read and filed by druggists in every civilised country on this globe; they are studied at the outset and become part of a book of reference afterwards.

*Third.*—There is no fear of any of the insets finding their way to a waste-paper basket unread. The issue of the Summer Number is a genuine one to live men. We pay carriage on each number—not a mere halfpenny postage—and we are too careful of our shillings to spend them upon "dead-heads." Hence the results to advertisers are the best possible.

These are good reasons for our recommendation to advertisers to see to this matter without delay. They should communicate with our publisher and their printer by the first post, and ensure that the circulars will be ready for delivery to us on July 20. There will be no other opportunity this year, so that prompt action is requisite.

## Summary.

THE Right Hon. T. H. Huxley, F.R.S., died last Saturday (p. 19).

THE Glasgow Parish Council wants duty-free spirit for medicinal purposes (p. 5).

THE reasons why citronella oil has been advancing lately are detailed in a note on p. 20.

AN Irish firm of druggists have been fined for selling adulterated linseed-meal (p. 5).

OVER a dozen good formulae are included amongst our answers to correspondents (p. 38).

A NUMBER of legal points interesting to readers generally are dealt with in reply to correspondents (p. 37).

WE give an illustrated description of the warehouses, laboratories, and business of Bleasdale, York (p. 24).

OUR Dispensing Notes are good this week. On several points the opinions of correspondents are invited (p. 36).

IT was strychnine that the Birmingham gentleman got from a local pharmacist instead of phenacetin. How the fatal mistake arose is a mystery (p. 2).

WE give some particulars regarding the arrangements for the British Pharmaceutical Conference meeting at Bournemouth. It is likely to be a pleasant meeting (p. 3).

MR. LAIDLAW EWING has been re-elected chairman of the North British Branch. The vice-chairman is provided by Glasgow, Mr. W. L. Currie fittingly receiving the honour (p. 9).

THE Skipton Magistrates have declined to hold that a label, 'Guaranteed B.P. strength,' on a bottle of tincture of rhubarb supplied by a wholesale house, could by itself be regarded as a warranty (p. 13).

A CASE interesting to Mincing Lane people is reported this week. It is in respect to rapid sales of opium last year by Ruffier and others, which the plaintiffs in the action say were unnecessary (p. 14).

A FIRM of shop-fitters at Bristol sued for payment for their designs, when it transpired that these had been shown to a rival firm who had secured the contract. The Judge held that they had no case (p. 13).

THE Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into our system of weights and measures has reported very strongly in favour of the early introduction and compulsory establishment of the metric system (p. 21).

CORRESPONDENTS support our contention that the new Local Government Board regulation regarding poor-law dispenserships is a retrograde step (p. 35). The Pharmaceutical Council have taken steps to get it altered if possible (p. 7).

PROFESSOR DUNSTAN and Miss L. E. Boole, have succeeded in isolating from the fatty acids of croton oil a resin which is a powerful vesicant, and to which the vesicating property of the oil is due. They disprove Kobert's statement that the fatty acids vesicate (p. 22).

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland has again failed to obtain a conviction against the unqualified vendors of arsenical sheep-dips at Roscommon, the Magistrates finding that it had not been satisfactorily proved that the defendants were the owners of the premises (p. 12).

WE report on p. 10 the Dublin Magistrate's judgment in the case of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland v. Fannin. His Worship seems to have accomplished the difficult task of satisfying both plaintiffs and defendants, for both expressed themselves contented with his decision.

THE Pharmaceutical Council, on Wednesday, decided to try to get the Local Government Board to alter the new poor-law dispensership regulation. They also adopted a report by a special committee, which practically exonerates Professor Dunstan from the charges made against him in respect to his manner of directing the Research Laboratory, but suggesting several measures for bringing it more directly under the control of the Council (p. 7).





## English News

*The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.*

### Strychnine for Phenacetin.

An inquest was held at Birmingham, on June 29, on the late Mr. Charles Harrop, 54 years of age, who was the vice-president of the Crane Chemical Company. Mr. O. Pemberton, the city coroner, presided. The deceased gentleman, whilst out driving on June 24, called at the shop of Mr. Brown, chemist, Hockley Hill, for a phenacetin-powder to cure a headache. Shortly after taking the powder he became very ill, and died on the way to the General Hospital. The deceased's relatives were represented by Mr. Bradley, and Mr. Sidney Porter (Glaisyer & Porter) appeared on behalf of Mr. Brown. The widow of the deceased stated that for a long time past he had suffered from nervous headaches, and by medical permission had taken phenacetin, and kept a bottle of it at his house. On Monday last, June 24, he left home about 9 o'clock in the morning on business. He had previously complained of headache. He returned to dinner at 20 minutes past 1 o'clock, and still complained of headache. A quarter of an hour before dinner he took a phenacetin-powder. He left home again in his trap on business, saying that he should return early. Charles Crees, coachman, detailed the places he had driven Mr. Harrop to. In Lodge Road, Hockley, the deceased said he had headache very badly. At Key Hill he said he knew a chemist's shop in Hockley Hill where he could get a phenacetin-powder, and told witness to drive there. He knew that deceased snarred from headache, and often called at Messrs. Bellamy & Wakefield's for phenacetin-powders. On arriving at Mr. Brown's the deceased went into the shop. He returned in about five minutes, looking very ill. Deceased said, "Well, Crees, they have given me the wrong thing, and will not charge me for it; they did not charge me for it because it was the wrong thing." He then told witness to drive him to the works quickly. Witness noticed that on the way deceased went very red in the face. On arriving at the works deceased went into the office, and witness stopped in the yard. About ten minutes after, deceased told him to take the trap and fetch Mr. Brown, the chemist, adding that he was ill. Mr. Brown told witness that he could not go himself, but went to Dr. Pogson, who lived near, and asked him to go. Witness drove the doctor to the works.

Mr. Philip Walter Marshall, cashier at the Crane Chemical-works, said that when deceased returned about 5.30 his face looked drawn. Deceased spoke about business matters for a few minutes, and then asked witness if he knew the chemist's shop kept by Mr. Brown, in Hockley Hill, and described the position. Witness replied that he knew it very well. Deceased then said, "Well, I called there a few minutes ago for 10 grs. of phenacetin-powder. As soon as I got it in my mouth I knew it was not the right thing, and said, 'This is not phenacetin-powder.' Mr. Brown, the chemist, replied that he was sure it was. I again said it was not, but he said it must be, and added that he bought his drugs and powders from the best places in the country. I said I was sure it was not the right thing, as phenacetin-powder had no taste, and that tasted bitter. He (the chemist) put a little of the powder into his mouth and tried it, and then said I was right, it was not the powder; he thought it was a sort of quinine. I offered him 2s., but he refused to take it, saying that he ought to give me something for finding it out." Deceased then told witness that once in London he had a phenacetin-powder with some sugar, and that made him ill. He was accustomed to take the powders by themselves. Deceased was then leaning against witness's desk, and he said, "My word, it is making my head spin round." Witness told him that an overdose of quinine

often made people feel ill. After that he sat down and commenced to write. In about two minutes he looked across to witness and said, "I don't know what's the matter; I can't write." Witness noticed that his face had become very haggard, and felt his hands, which he found to be cold and heavy. He suggested that a doctor should be sent for. Deceased said, "Send for the chemist," and Crees, the last witness, was despatched. Witness also sent a messenger in a cab to Dr. Nelson, in Reservoir Road, whom he knew was the deceased's medical adviser. Witness then observed twitchings in the deceased's limbs, and became uneasy. He obtained some warm water, and was about to give it to deceased, when the latter was seized with spasms in the throat and month, and could not take it. He (witness) suggested that he should take him to a doctor, but deceased replied that he could not get up. Just as Dr. Pogson came in, which he did in a very short time, deceased was seized with convulsions.

Dr. Pogson stated that when he arrived at Newhall Hill the deceased was sitting in a chair in the office. He was quite conscious, but his back and legs were stiff and rigid. He tried to administer an emetic, but could not do so on account of spasms in the deceased's throat, and the stomach-pump could not be used for the same reason. He said, "You must come to the hospital." Deceased replied, "You cannot take me. I can't move." Dr. Nelson then arrived, and assisted witness to carry the deceased to a car, which was waiting, and in which deceased was removed to the General Hospital. Deceased did not speak again, and died on the way. Witness said he afterwards visited Mr. Brown, and told him that Mr. Harrop had died, and asked for the bottle from which the powder had been supplied. Mr. Brown took him behind the counter, and handed him a bottle containing a white powder, and labelled "Phenacetin. Dose from 4 to 15 gr." Witness sealed it up in the presence of the chemist, and handed it to Superintendent Beard. In answer to the Coroner, witness said that directly he saw deceased he concluded that it was a case of strychnine-poisoning. By the Jury: Mr. Brown made no bother about giving him the bottle; it was a kind of mutual arrangement between them.

Dr. Nelson said deceased had been subject to headaches, and with witness's permission had taken phenacetin-powders. When he arrived at the works on the night in question the deceased recognised him, and said, "Well, doctor." Dr. Pogson briefly related the circumstances to him. Deceased listened attentively, and then said, "I told him it was bitter." Witness recognised the case immediately as one of strychnine-poisoning.

Mr. Brown, pharmaceutical chemist, of 168 Hockley Hill, said he had been in business on his own account for the last twenty-one years. His drugs were supplied by Messrs. Southall & Barclay and Messrs. Wyley (Limited). The phenacetin-powder, supplied by Messrs. Southall & Barclay, was used up on June 18, and some more, supplied by Messrs. Wyley, was brought up from the cellar, where it had been kept in a bottle. The bottle was not opened until June 21. Some of the contents was then made up into powders, containing 10 grs. each. He had since handed them over to the Coroner's inspector. The deceased called at his shop on the afternoon in question, and asked for 10 gr. of phenacetin-powder, and witness weighed it out on to a piece of paper from the bottle now in the possession of the Coroner's officer, which was the bottle which had been sealed up by Dr. Pogson. The deceased said the powder was bitter. Witness then put his finger into the bottle and touched it on his tongue, and found that it was so. Deceased asked if it was quinine, and witness replied, "No, he thought it was salicin." Witness knew that phenacetin had no taste. Deceased asked whether it would do him any harm, and witness replied, "No, it would not," or words to that effect. Deceased also told him that once he took some phenacetin, mixed with sugar, in London, and it made him ill. Witness did not charge deceased for what he had taken. Deceased advised witness to send the bottle and its contents back to the suppliers, and he said he should do so. He then left the shop, and soon after his coachman came back and asked witness to go and see the deceased. Witness said he could not leave the shop; but immediately sent Dr. Pogson. Afterwards Dr. Pogson told him that Mr. Harrop had died, and he advised Dr. Pogson to seal the bottle up. Witness kept all poisons locked up in a chest. There were no poisonous



drugs near to the bottle produced. In answer to the foreman of the jury, witness said he had sold a few of the packets made up from the contents of the bottle from which he supplied the deceased. The Coroner remarked that the remainder of the powders were in the hands of his officers. Inspector Gosling gave evidence as to receiving the sealed bottle from Superintendent Beard, and also respecting a visit he paid to Mr. Brown's shop. Mr. Brown handed him two bottles containing strychnine, one of which he got from a box behind the counter, and the other from near the window; he also gave him some powders which had been made up from the bottle labelled "Phenacetin." Mr. Brown gave him all the assistance he could. Dr. Steed, resident medical officer at the General Hospital, said he had made a *post-mortem* examination, and found that death was due to strychnine-poisoning. The Coroner at this point adjourned the proceedings until July 15, in order that the contents of the bottles and packages might be examined.

#### A Profitable Trade—Sometimes.

In the City of London Court, on June 29, Messrs. John Dickinson & Co. (Limited) sought to enforce payment of 15*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* from Mr. L. Thomasso, 143 Westminster Bridge Road. Plaintiffs' representative said they understood the defendant was a medicine-vendor in Westminster Bridge Road.

Mr. Commissioner Kerr: I do not want to know what you "understand." I must have facts. You mean the defendant sells quack medicines.

Plaintiffs' representative said that was so.

Mr. Commissioner Kerr: It is a very profitable thing—sometimes.

Plaintiffs' representative added that in March the defendant was committed at the instance of another firm for the non-payment of a debt, and he paid up at once.

Mr. Commissioner Kerr: Why don't you take his drugs and his furniture by way of execution? I shall not make any order in this case. You got your judgment against the defendant on June 7 for 15*l.*, and on June 8 you issue this judgment-summons. You do not give the man time even to receive the order to pay. I cannot make any order under the circumstances.

#### Wholesale Pill-swallowers.

At an inquest held regarding the death of Elizabeth Baker (67) by the St. Luke's Coroner, on June 27, Lizzie Clare, with whom the deceased had resided for upwards of thirty years, stated that she took eight pills to relieve a pain. The Coroner (aghast): What! eight at once? The Witness: Yes. A Jurymen: That is nothing. I know a man who takes twenty at a time. Another jurymen said he had taken ten at a time. The medical evidence showed that death had been caused through syncope, and the doctor said he did not think the pills would harm her. He had known a person to take a whole box of pills at a time, and no harm ensued.

#### Jersey Pharmacy.

Mr. H. C. Laertes-Brodhurst, of St. Helier, wishes us to say that the dispensing-department of the Halkett Drug-stores will be in charge of a qualified man until he himself has passed the examination. Our reporter's statement that Mr. Brodhurst had qualified appears, therefore, to be incorrect.

Young Mr. C. U. Rendall, of Southampton, who opened a pharmacy at the corner of New and Craig Streets, St. Helier, Jersey, C.I., has not been long at his stand, the stock having been sold before an Officer of Justice in virtue of Acts obtained by creditors at the local Petty Debts Court.

Mr. Ph. H. Larbalestier, eau-de-Cologne maker, Charing Cross, Jersey, was last week re-elected Constable's Officer for the Lower Town Vingtaine, of St. Helier. The post is an honorary one. Mr. Larbalestier's proposer was a retired chemist and neighbour, Mr. Ph. Le Sueur, whose son and successor some time ago adopted the trade-title, "The Oldest Jersey Eau-de-Cologne Factory" on Mr. Larbalestier designating himself the "original" maker!

#### "The Old Order Changeth."

With these words Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, pharmaceutical chemist, Market Street, Sheffield, commences a circular

he intends to issue shortly. The premises have been sacred to this business for more than a century and a half, and now they have to come down for purposes of street improvement. For six years Mr. Newsholme has occupied a range of warehouses in High Street, and now he has secured the commodious premises in front of them in about the middle of the street, and these he is having fitted up as a pharmacy of the most modern style, and hopes to be in them in about a month. The demolition of his present shop will remove one of the most ancient landmarks in the city.

#### 'Twill Cost More to be L.D.S.

The Royal College of Surgeons of England have raised the fee for the L.D.S. certificate from 10 to 20 guineas, exclusive of stamp duty.

#### Fatal Result from Cocaine.

At the Paddington Coroner's Court on Monday Dr. Danford Thomas held an inquest with reference to the death of Mrs. Susan Jane Ridgeway, aged 47, who died on Saturday through taking an overdose of cocaine. The Rev. Charles John Ridgeway, Vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, Hyde Park, identified the body as that of his wife, and stated that she had suffered much with neuralgic pains in the gums, for which she had occasionally used cocaine as a local anæsthetic. Gerald Ridgeway, son of the deceased, stated that on Saturday morning he heard a cry, and on going to his mother's room he found her very ill in bed. With the exception of uttering the one word "cocaine" she was unable to speak. A doctor was sent for, but death took place half an hour afterwards. Dr. John Sadler Curgenven, of 12 Craven Hill Gardens, stated that he had attended Mrs. Ridgeway for five years. She had suffered intensely, and the witness prescribed a solution of cocaine for her twelve months ago. He gave directions that it was to be applied on cotton-wool to the gums, but did not specify what quantity was to be used. It was a disputed point as to how much taken internally would cause death, but a small dose would, in the witness's opinion, be practically harmless. He was called to see the deceased on Saturday morning, and found her in a state of collapse, with all the symptoms of cocaine-poisoning. Death, which, despite the remedies which were adopted, took place shortly afterwards, was due to poisoning by cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure.

#### British Pharmaceutical Conference.

Mr. Stewart Hardwick, the Honorary Local Secretary of the Bournemouth committee which is organising the forthcoming meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, has sent us a programme of the arrangements and attractions which are to be provided on that occasion. The Hotel Mont Dore is to be the headquarters, and the Conference will never have had a more charming home. A reception and *conversazione* will be held in the Winter Garden of the hotel on the evening of Monday, July 29, and the next morning the scientific proceedings will be opened at the Shaftesbury Hall by a welcome from the Mayor of Bournemouth, Mr. Merton Russell Cotes, F.R.G.S. Luncheons will be provided at the Mont Dore Hotel. On the Tuesday evening there is to be a sea-trip to Swanage, tea being served on board. A garden-party, a smoking-concert and a drawing-room concert are planned for the Wednesday evening in the hotel, and Thursday is to be devoted to an excursion to the New Forest, taking in Lyndhurst and Ringwood. Tickets for these events can be obtained from Mr. Stewart Hardwick, 21 Commercial Road, Bournemouth, and intending visitors should give early notice to this gentleman, so that he may arrange for rooms for them. Bournemouth, says Mr. Hardwick in his circular, "in its rapid growth presents a contrast to the last meeting-place of the Conference, over which hung the charm of historic association and antiquity. Seventy years ago Bournemouth was a small hamlet unknown and unnamed, the haunt of smugglers and wildfowl. It is now a town of over 50,000 inhabitants, and of world-wide reputation as a health-resort. Situated, as the town is, in one of the most beautiful spots of the South Coast, it presents great attractions to visitors. The pine woods, the public gardens, the cliffs furnish pleasing and diversified walks; while the views across the bay, including the Isle of Wight on the east and the Purbeck Hills on the west, are



ever beautiful and ever varied by the changing effects of light and shade." Is not this tempting enough?

#### Contracts.

Messrs. J. Smith & Son have secured the contract for the supply of linseed-meal to the Cirencester Board of Guardians at 16s. 6d. per cwt.

Romney Marsh (Kent) Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. T. Gravett, New Romney, for the supply of linseed at 2d. per lb., and arrowroot at 9d. per lb.

The Lewisham Union Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Braden & Co., of Bermondsey, for the supply of crushed linseed, at 13s. 6d. per cwt., for three months.

The House and Contract Committee of the Bracebridge Asylum, Lincoln, have accepted the tender of Messrs. Battle & Maltby, chemists and druggists, for the supply of drugs for the ensuing quarter.

The Wolverhampton Board of Guardians have accepted the following tenders for the ensuing quarter:—Messrs. Jno. Richardson & Co., Leicester (Limited), drugs, 38l. 17s. 7d.; Messrs. Wm. Czerns and Co., carbolic soap, at 16s. 6d. per cwt., soft-soap, at 7s. 6d. per 64 lbs.; and Mr. W. B. Satlow, linseed oil 1s. per gallon, boiled oil 1s. per gallon, turpentine 1s. per gallon.

#### Chemists at Cricket.

On Saturday, June 29, Burgoyne Burbidge's C.C. met the Central School of Pharmacy's C.C. on the former's ground at Willesden, when Burgoyne's proved victorious—the scores being: C.S. of P.C.C. 44 and 83 for three wickets (Bateson 50 not out); B.B.C.C. 55 (Riley 21) and 86 for 3 wickets (Moxon 39 not out, Newport 21 not out, and Riley 16).

#### Two Ounces of Chloroform Daily.

An inquiry into the death of Mr. Frederick C. Banks, of Ashchurch Grove, Hammersmith, was held by Mr. Drew on Monday. The deceased, who was 64 years of age, had been in the habit of taking chloroform to allay the pain in one of his fingers caused by an accidental prick under the nail, which brought on blood-poisoning. His wife explained that he was accustomed to make a cone of paper, pour about thirty drops into it, and put it to his nose. This he did day and night. For nearly eighteen months a bottle containing 2 oz. of chloroform had been delivered at the house daily. Dr. Campbell Pope said he had known deceased seven or eight years. He was highly intellectual, and most unlikely to commit suicide. When the doctor was called deceased had been dead about an hour. A *post mortem* showed that most of the organs were congested, the heart was fatty, the lungs indicated old pleurisy, and the liver Bright's disease. Death was due to syncope from the inhalation of chloroform. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

#### A Dangerous Proceeding.

John Ryder, described as a chemist, of 23 Deepdale Street Preston, was charged at Blackburn on Saturday with being drunk whilst in charge of a horse and trap at Northgate on the previous night, and was fined 20s. and costs.

#### Poison Tragedies.

W. Blackburne, aged 58, wheelwright, living in the Old Kent Road, died, apparently from laudanum-poisoning, last week. Witnesses at the inquest stated that deceased had alleged that his wife had tried to poison him by putting laudanum in his tea. The wife indignantly denied this accusation, and the Coroner adjourned the inquest.

A London policeman named Hazewood killed himself last week by taking oxalic acid. He was married, but had formed a *liaison* with a young woman, which seriously worried him, and the jury considered his mind was unbalanced.

Alfred Sandford, aged 41, labourer, residing in Gray's Inn Road, was charged at the Clerkenwell Police Court, on June 22, with having caused the death of his wife by administering to her a dose of chloral hydrate. The Coroner's jury had returned a verdict of death from misadventure, Sandford having given the medicine in the belief that it was Epsom salts. The Magistrate discharged him.

Mrs. Gilbert, of Arnold, Notts, gave her infant child a few drops of laudanum in mistake for syrup of rhubarb. The child died in consequence.

Henrietta Wilkins, of Cawston, Bath, poisoned herself by taking paraffin two days after her marriage. She appears to have been temporarily insane.

Samuel Woods, aged 51, head gardener for Mr. Foljambe, of Osberton Hall, Scofton, Notts, killed himself last week by taking wasp-destroyer.

At Jarrow-on-Tyne, on Wednesday, a Coroner's jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Elizabeth Urquhart, aged 51 years, for having wilfully given her husband a dose of strychnine. The deceased had been ailing for about two years, and it is alleged that his wife had become tired of attending him. When taken into custody she attempted to kill herself with the same poison.

#### Peach Bitters and the Excise.

Beston K. Law, of 110 Cheapside, appeared before Mr. Alderman Vaughan Morgan upon four summonses charging him with infringements of the Spirits Act, 1880. The defendant is the proprietor of "Peach Bitters," and has a licence to compound spirits at 110 Cheapside. The "Peach Bitters" were manufactured for the defendant by Mr. W. H. Plews, a chemist, at 14 Basinghall Street. The defendant had sent spirit from Cheapside to Mr. Plews without a certificate and without an entry in the stock-book. The Alderman held that there had been a technical breach of the law, and he imposed a fine of 20s. on each of the two summonses. He dismissed other two summonses alleging that the defendant carried on the business of a compounder at 14 Basinghall Street and 12 Bow Lane without a licence; but Mr. W. H. Plews was summoned for carrying on at 14 Basinghall Street the trade of a compounder of spirits without a licence, and was fined 10l.

#### Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

The usual Married *v.* Single cricket-match will be played on the Langley Ground, Small Heath, on Wednesday next, July 10. Wickets pitched at 2.45 P.M. Lawn-tennis, bowls, quoits, and refreshments will be provided. These friendly encounters were first started in 1885, and since that time thirteen matches have been played, the Married having won eight and the Single five.

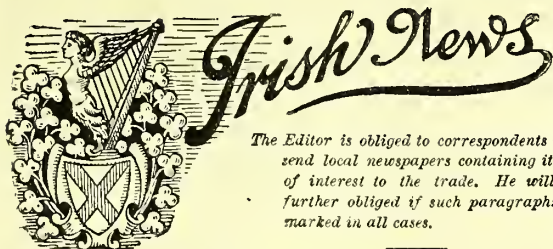
#### An Expensive Misunderstanding.

Thomas Needham, chemist, North Road, Kirkburton, was summoned at Huddersfield on July 2 for having sold methylated spirit without a licence at Kirkburton. Mr. J. Lee, Supervisor of Inland Revenue, said an officer purchased  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of methylated spirit. He visited the shop again and purchased  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pint. On neither occasion did the assistant ask any questions. Mr. Lee said the defendant, who had a number of shops, had previously been fined 5l. on account of a similar offence at another shop. For the defence it was stated that the person who sold the spirit was a new manager, who sold it under a misapprehension. He had been formerly employed by a firm who sold it, and he thought he was justified in selling it here. The Bench inflicted a penalty of 12l. 10s. and costs.

#### Sudden Death of a Chemist.

On Wednesday Mr. Hooper, Coroner, held an inquest at West Bromwich concerning the death of Edmund Lambert Wheel Bridgwater (58), chemist, of Hill Top, West Bromwich, who died suddenly on Tuesday morning. Sarah Bridgwater, wife of deceased, stated that she was married to her late husband in April last. He had always appeared to be in good health, and never told her that he was suffering from any disease. On Tuesday morning he got up at about 6.30, and a few minutes later witness was informed by the servant that the deceased was ill. She found her husband lying in the sitting-room on the floor dead. A doctor, who saw the deceased soon after death, gave his opinion that he died from an attack of apoplexy. The jury accepted this explanation.





The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

#### Apothecaries' Hall.

Mr. S. Wesley Wilson writes to the *Irish Times* recounting the origin of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland. The Hall, he states, was established in the last century to fulfil the duties now carried on by the Pharmaceutical Society, the latter Society being the outcome of the neglect of the Hall to supervise pharmacy. He alleges that the licence of the Hall to grant qualifications was given under an error, and in the belief that the status of the Hall was similar to that of the Society of Apothecaries in London, and holds that the combination of the trade of compounders, patent-medicine and tooth-brush vendors, and the making of physicians and surgeons is a self-evident absurdity.

#### The Lady Doctor and the Civic Father.

Mrs. Longshore Potts, an American lady, who recently delivered a series of medical lectures in Ireland, has brought an action against Mr. Francis Curley, merchant, High Street, Belfast, for slander. The defendant, it is alleged, imputed that the lectures delivered by the plaintiff were of an improper character. The defendant pleads justification and privilege, the words complained of being used by him as a member of the Police Committee of the Belfast Corporation.

#### Personal.

Mr. Henry Lyons, druggist, Omagh, has been unanimously nominated to be commissioner of that town.

The Local Government Board have approved of the appointment of Mr. John Rooke as compounder of medicines to the Newcastle West Dispensary at a salary of 30% per annum.

#### A Lucrative Appointment.

A Dublin trade society is advertising for a doctor to attend the members and their families, supply drugs and medicines, and issue medical certificates, at 10% per quarter for each member, the latter including the "family," ranging from two to a dozen persons. Already two candidates are in the field.

#### Fire.

At Cork last week the chemical establishment of Messrs. O'Brien, Great George's Street, was destroyed by a fire which broke out in the oil-stores of the firm. A woman named O'Connell unhappily perished in the flames.

#### Adulterated Linseed-meal.

Last week, at the Loughgall (co. Armagh) Petty Sessions, George and Thomas Bates, trading as "Bates Brothers," drug and general merchants, Loughgall, were summoned under the Food and Drugs Act for selling linseed-meal which, on analysis, was certified to be adulterated with farinaceous matter. Defendants pleaded that the meal was bought from Messrs. W. C. Low, Portadown, and sold in the same condition as they received it. The meal had been purchased as pure good linseed, and it was not adulterated so far as they were aware. Mr. Low deposed that the defendants purchased the meal from his firm. He had ground the meal from American and Russian oil-cake, which he had obtained from the most respectable houses in the wholesale trade, and which was of a good brand. Nothing whatever had been added to the meal whilst it was in his establishment, and no complaints regarding it had been received from any of his customers. He had recently sent a sample of the cake to Sir Charles Cameron, but as that gentleman had been in England, the analysis was not yet completed. Sir Charles, however, intimated that he detected small traces of starchy matter in the sample, but he had not gone so far as

to be in a position to say whether the foreign substance was in the American or Russian cake. The Court believed that the defendants were wholly unaware of the presence of any foreign matter in the meal, and as this was the first offence they would only impose a fine of 10s and costs; if, however, any future case of the same kind came before them, they would inflict heavy fines.



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#### Aberdeen Chemists' Excursion.

The members of the Aberdeen and North of Scotland Society of Chemists and Druggists, in conjunction with the members of the East Aberdeenshire Chemists' Association, held their annual excursion on Wednesday, June 26. The party from Aberdeen left by the 9.25 A.M. train, and on arriving at Mintlaw were joined by the Buchan contingent—the party in all numbering about forty. After enjoying themselves for an hour in the policies of Pittfour, the company drove to the Bulters of Buchan, the magnificent rock-scenery in the locality of which was much admired. After a brief stay, the journey was continued to Peterhead, which was reached about 4 o'clock. Dinner was served in the North-Eastern Hotel, Mr. John Johnston presiding, with Mr. Grant (Methlick) as croupier. After dinner a lengthy toast-list was gone through, and all who have had experience of Aberdeen hospitality will quite understand that it was by the last train from Peterhead that the Aberdeen contingent left.

#### A New Medical Knight.

Dr. Henry Duncan Littlejohn, who has received a knighthood as one of the Rosebery resignation honours, is medical officer of health for Edinburgh, and one of the most noted toxicologists now living. He graduated as M.D. at the Edinburgh University in 1847. He has for many years lectured on medical jurisprudence at Surgeon's Hall, and has figured in all the important Scotch criminal trials in which medical opinion has been required. He is a most vivacious man, and as clever a witness as has ever stepped into the box. Years ago he used to take part in evening meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society in Edinburgh, the late Mr. John Mackay and he being close friends.

#### Spirit as Medicine.—Application for Withdrawal of Duty.

On the motion of its only druggist member, Mr. J. A. Russell, chemist, New City Road, the Glasgow City Parish Council have this week resolved to make application to the Excise at Somerset House for withdrawal of the duty on spirit used medicinally.

#### Glasgow City Parish Council and Qualified Chemists.

Glasgow City Parish Council, at its monthly meeting on Tuesday, confirmed the following resolution adopted by its Medical Committee at the instance of Mr. J. A. Russell, pharmaceutical chemist, Glasgow, the recently-appointed secretary of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association, who is now a member of the City Parish Council:—

That in future it be regarded as a fixed principle that the medicines supplied by the Council of this parish to the outdoor poor be dispensed by qualified chemists only, excepting in the event of special circumstances rendering such a course impracticable.

#### Glasgow Parish Medicines.

At the monthly meeting of the Glasgow City Parish Council on Tuesday, it was reported that the following five



offers for the quarterly supply of medicines to the dispensary had been received:—Mr. James Taylor, 50*l.* 10*s.* 11½*d.*; Messrs. Brown Brothers & Co., 50*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*; The Glasgow Apothecaries' Company, 50*l.* 15*s.* 0½*d.*; The New Apothecaries' Company, 52*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*; and Messrs. W. & R. Hatrick & Co. 53*l.* 4*s.* 3½*d.* Mr. James Taylor's offer was accepted. An offer from the British and Foreign Mineral-water Company to supply syphons of soda and other waters to the dispensary at 2*s.* 6*d.* per dozen was also accepted.

#### Merry Hearts in a Hail-shower.

The second botanical excursion of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association on Wednesday, June 26, was to Colinton Dell, and to the tune of heavy rain and hail showers about fifty members, under the leadership of Mr. William Duncan, walked from the station to the Dell and round by Craiglockhart, reaching town again about 11 P.M. *Sambucus nigra* was in flower in some exposed places. *Valeriana pyrenaica* was in full bloom, but *Valeriana officinalis* and *Spiraea Ulmaria* were just about flowering. Many specimens of *Geum urbanum*, *G. intermedium*, and *G. rivale* were gathered. The advantage of the previous summer meeting was evident in the facility with which many were able to identify the plants gathered. The outing was much enjoyed by all, and the homeward march was enlivened by several well-known choruses led by a fine tenor voice from a Princes Street Pharmacy.

### French News.

**BORIC ACID IN BUTTER.**—M. Jalenques, a magistrate of one of the Paris Police Courts, in condemning a butter-merchant to 25*f.* fine for adding boric acid to his butter, has expressed an opinion that this comes within the scope of the French adulteration laws. The defendant's action in labelling his butter "Guaranteed pure" aggravated his offence.

**THE QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF ARSENIC.**—M. Adolphe Carnot read a paper to the Paris Academy of Sciences on Monday on a new process for the qualitative analysis of arsenic, of which he is the inventor. M. Carnot referred to the fact that the analysis of arsenic by existing methods is frequently unsatisfactory not only to medical men but also to metallurgists. By his method he was able to show that he could detect nearly  $\frac{1}{10}$  milligramme.

**THE FRENCH PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF IODINE.**—This organisation, to which we have previously referred, has now been finally constituted, with a capital of 350,000*f.* At the first meeting of the Society M. Blaise occupied the chair, and a statement of the objects of the Society, with an estimate of the results expected to accrue from its operations, were read and approved. It was decided that the technical director of the iodine-works should receive, by way of remuneration, a royalty of 1*f.* upon each kilo. of iodine sold to the shareholders. An administrative committee, consisting of eight pharmacists, was subsequently appointed.

**FIRES IN FRENCH DRUG WAREHOUSES.**—A fire broke out recently in the drug warehouses of MM. Quinet et Cie. at Paris, Rue Vieille-du-Temple. The principal business of the firm is the sale and preparation of goods for perfumers and distillers. The premises were found to be on fire at about 7 o'clock at night, shortly before closing time, and damage was done to the extent of about 50,000*f.* M. Paton, the chief partner in the firm, is an amateur landscape-painter of some prominence, and a great many of his paintings, some of which had been exhibited, were destroyed. Another fire has taken place in the works of the firm of MM. Rigaud & Chapoteaut, manufacturers of pharmacists' specialties at Neuilly, near Paris. The damage in this case, however, did not exceed 10,000*f.*

**FOR THE BALD.**—The proceedings of the Paris Academy of Medicine were enlivened last Tuesday by a somewhat amusing incident. M. Bergeron read a letter which the Minister of the Interior had forwarded. The writer addressed the Minister to the effect that he had been successful in preparing a pomade which was capable of rendering the greatest service to people suffering from bald-

ness or likely to become so. An application of the remedy once every twenty-four hours during ten or twelve days would be sufficient to prevent the hair from falling, in addition to which the slight freshness which the pomade gives to the head drives away headaches, while the infusion of plants it contains relieves the pains of neuralgia. The inventor terminated his letter by stating that he had forwarded a large pot of the precious mixture to the Minister in the hope that he would find the remedy a good one and approve of its sale. The Academy decided to submit the sample of the pomade to the special committee charged with the examination of secret remedies.

**THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION**, announced some time ago, was formally opened on Thursday of last week in the Liberal Arts Gallery at the Champ de Mars by the President of the Republic. The exhibition appears to have been organised with considerable skill by a committee, of which Dr Brouardel is the president. It contains some extensive displays of sanitary appliances. The Hermite automatic electrical apparatus for producing electrolised salt water attracts attention. It may interest those in England who know of the process and its weaknesses, that it is stated here that the water thus obtained is termed "hermitine," and is said to be the most powerful disinfectant discovered so far, while being at the same time quite harmless. One of the French steam navigation companies has already tried the Hermite apparatus on one of its ships, and it is expected to be of special value for disinfecting emigrant and cattle ships, also for hospitals and other large institutions. It is stated that this system is already in use in several English towns.

**THE DIAGNOSIS OF DIPHTHERIA** formed the subject of a discussion at the Academy of Medicine this week. Dr. Dieulafoy introduced the subject, and laid great stress on the importance of bacteriological examination in cases of either severe sore throat or diphtheria, on account of errors that frequently occur. He thinks the practical study of bacteriology should even be made elementary. The means of recognising microbes and how to look for them ought to be taught at the School of Pharmacy. M. Planchon, Director of the Paris School of Pharmacy, replied that at the present time an effort is being made to organise instruction in bacteriology in the French Schools of Pharmacy. M. Laborde expressed the opinion that it was more important to arrange regular courses on the subject in the provincial Schools of Pharmacy. M. Cadet de Gassicourt was able to inform the meeting that the official laboratory of the City of Paris will be opened in a few days, under the direction of Dr. Miguel, whose competence is well known, and that bacteriological researches would be undertaken there.

**NEWS IN BRIEF.**—Amongst the visitors in Paris this week may be mentioned Sir F. von Müller, Director of the Melbourne Botanical Gardens, who was instrumental in bringing about the introduction of the eucalyptus into France, with the result that its cultivation is becoming common in the South, as well as in Algeria.—There is at least one happy pharmacist in France just now. It is M. Tarrade, pharmacist and municipal councillor at Limoges, who has won a 100,000*f.* prize in one of the lottery drawings of bonds, which are so popular amongst all the small capitalists in France.—The inhabitants of the Faubourg St. Jacques at Valence were startled by a loud explosion one day last week. The scene of the accident was M. Achard's pharmacy, and the explosion was due to a tube having broken while some experiments were going on. All the windows of the shop were blown out, and one of the assistants was injured, though not seriously.—The pharmacists of Paris, like their colleagues in all large cities, have occasionally curious cases to treat. Last Sunday morning a pharmacien near the Trinity Church had to bandage the thigh of a young girl, who had been wounded with a pair of open scissors by a young man on coming from mass. The patient had scarcely left the pharmacy when another girl, wounded in a similar way, came in. The police were then communicated with, but the aggressor has of course disappeared. Another pharmacien, M. Pin, of Neuilly Plaisance, had his *officine* full of the victims of a steam tramway accident last Sunday afternoon, when he had to treat something like fourteen patients, who were more or less injured.



## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

### COUNCIL MEETING

THE new Council has got to business quickly. On Wednesday there was a good volume of work on the agenda, research claiming more attention, perhaps, than anything else; and, as matters not upon the paper, the British Pharmacopœia and Poor-law dispenserships took up a fair share of the Council's time. Chairs were the thing most in request, and in insufficient supply. This rarely happens, but the examinations are on now, and are exceptionally heavy, so the fine heraldic seats of the councillors were on Wednesday drawn upon, and in the long run Mr. Bremridge had to part with his own to a belated councillor who was not expected.

The first business of the day was a vote of thanks to the President, moved by Mr. Hills, because his evidence before the Weights and Measures Committee has been quickly carried into effect, as far as the Committee's report is concerned. Mr. Martindale joined Mr. Umney's name to the vote, and the President seemed a little surprised at the thanks. It has been customary to take that for granted. After this he rattled through the election lists, which the Council pays no attention to, but for once they were startled to hear Canon Duckworth's name submitted for the studentship. There was a twinkle in the President's eye as he explained "One Cannon and a Duckworth." The churchmen breathed again.

The Finance and Benevolence Reports were good, and there was a slight indication of a coming storm when Mr. Martin took the precaution of ensuring that a list of the present school professors on a new prospectus proof did not commit the Council to reappointing all these professors. Mr. Carteighe assured him. Next came the Pharmacopœia matter, and the committee was reappointed, Mr. Ince being added to decide points of Latinity, and Mr. Cross because he is familiar with the work. The days of construction have fairly begun now; some points of principle have been decided, and more on which pharmaceutical opinion has been asked will be before the end of the month.

The Council have responded promptly and well to the appeal in regard to Poor-law dispenserships. The new regulation was roundly condemned, and the President is to see the Secretary of the Local Government Board. The report of the special committee appointed to inquire into the Research Laboratory and its work submitted a long and cautious "finding." Without attempting to discuss controversial matters they recommend that the director should be brought more into touch with the Council, and that is to be done by making him report monthly to the Library, &c., Committee. To further ensure that the Council and Society are kept posted on the work that goes on in the laboratory, all the papers emanating from it are to be printed in full or abstract in the Society's journal. As to the work and workers of the laboratory, the director had convinced the committee that they are, to put it concisely, first-class. And this report the Council adopted *nem. con.* after an hour's discussion *in camera*. Naturally a motion by Mr. Martin to inquire further into the aconitine controversy fell flat. So here ends the third stage of this strange eventful history: will there be a fourth?

Mr. Carteighe, as usual, presided, Mr. John Harrison, of Sunderland, occupying the vice-chair; and the other members present, either at the outset or later in the day, were Messrs. Allen, Atkins, Bottle, Corder, Gostling, Grose, Hampson, Hills, Johnston, Martin, Martindale, Newsholme,

Savory, Schacht, Southall, Warren, and Young. The absentees were Mr. Gowen Cross (the first time for many years) and Mr. David Storror.

Preliminary business over, Mr. WALTER HILLS brought up the question of

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES,

upon which he remarked that the report of the Parliamentary Committee had been lodged within the past few days, and he had observed from it that the recommendations in regard to legalisation of the use of metric weights and measures in pharmacy, laid before the committee by their President, had been acceded to. Mr. Hills added that this was an opportunity which they should not allow to pass without thanking the President for his assistance in the matter, especially as he did so much for pharmacy which did not become known outside. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MARTINDALE seconded the motion. He had been appointed, along with the President, to give evidence, and had sent in a *précis* of what he would say, but had not been called upon: the evidence of Mr. Umney and the President had been sufficient to get a recognition of the desirability of legislating.

The PRESIDENT said the chief credit he could claim was his urging before the Committee that pharmacy could not wait ten years for legislation on the subject. The Committee seemed to respond readily to the notion, and it was proposed by a voluntary Bill to at once allow the demands made on behalf of the drug-trade. This would pave the way for further legislation. (Hear, hear.)

### FINANCE.

After the elections, &c., had been disposed of, the Secretary submitted the report of the Finance Committee for the month. It showed a healthy state of things so far as the general fund was concerned, the receipts during the month having amounted to close upon 3,000*l.*, of which 2,406*l.* was from examination-fees. After paying all May charges, a balance of 2,629*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* remained, and only 1,437*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* was required to meet present demands. The Benevolent Fund receipts were 54*l.* 17*s.*, bringing the sum in hand up to 850*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*, and the Donation and Orphan Fund accounts had not been augmented. There was little in these details for the PRESIDENT to catch on to, and he contented himself with a concise repetition of them. Then to

### BENEVOLENCE,

which also was brief, two applicants receiving 10*l.* each, and one 20*l.* The VICE PRESIDENT said that was all they had before them. The PRESIDENT read a letter from Mr. Lloyd, of Chelsea, returning thanks for assistance in the election of Mary Margaret Lewis to the Welsh School.

### LIBRARY, &c., REPORT.

The committee might be called the miscellaneous purposes one, for it almost rivals the General Purposes Committee in variety of subject. The items of greatest public interest were an agreement to issue the School of Pharmacy prospectus this month, a resolution making it necessary for candidates for the sessional medals, &c., of that school to attend both sessions, and a proposal to alter plans submitted by the Edinburgh committee. After Mr. Martin had extracted from the President an assurance that the adoption of the report would not prejudice the appointment of professors, the report was adopted.

### THE PHARMACOPŒIA.

A letter from Sir Richard Quain, Bart., M.D., President of the General Medical Council, was read by the PRESIDENT. It referred to certain points (not, of course, disclosed) upon which the Council wish the assistance of the Pharmaceutical Society's committee, and as the Pharmacopœia Committee is to hold a special meeting on July 25, Sir Richard asked the opinions of the Pharmaceutical committee to be submitted before then. He also said that though many of the annotations for adapting the formulæ, &c., to colonial requirements would appear as footnotes, most of them would take the form of an appendix to the Pharmacopœia. The President explained that he had called the members of the committee together last week, and he now suggested the reappointment of the committee with the addition of Mr.



Iace and Mr. Cross. The committee, therefore, consists of the President, Vice-President, Messrs. W. Inglis Clark, Cross, Ekin, Hills, Iace, Martin, Martindale, and Charles Umney, and Professor Greenish as secretary. The President added that it was considered a larger committee would be impracticable.

Mr. SCHACHT asked to be allowed to second the motion. This he did, and it was agreed to.

#### POOR-LAW DISPENSARIES.

The PRESIDENT referred to the new regulations issued by the Local Government Board in regard to the appointment of dispensers in certain Unions throughout England and Wales. This was a most extraordinary thing, he said, for it was proposed to make eligible certain qualifications from licentiates of the Apothecaries' Society down to ex-compounders of the Medical Staff Corps. The want of consideration for the sick poor shown by the regulations was a thing which he could not understand, as hitherto the Board had considered that class without respect to their poverty. When the Board agreed to make registration under the Pharmacy Act necessary for these dispenserships they had considered that a step in the right direction, and, on the whole, for the public good; because these men had not only to dispense medicines, but had to buy them, and it seemed to him to be shortsighted policy for a Government Department to allow public bodies to appoint such men as old soldiers. Owing to the change in Government he had not been able to approach the Secretary of the Local Government Board, but he proposed to do so now with the Council's authority.

Mr. ATKINS considered that wise, and hoped that Mr. Carteighe would point out to the Secretary how superior the Minor qualification is to that of the Apothecaries' Society.

Mr. HAMPSON said the Council should use all their influence in this matter. It was important that this thing should be remedied at once, and as it had been agreed that the standard of nursing for the sick poor should be maintained, surely that of the dispensers should be also.

Mr. NEWSHOLME told how some years ago the Sheffield Guardians had appointed an unregistered man as dispenser, and the Local Government Board at once pointed out that it was contrary to regulations. It was remarkable what a change had come over the Department.

The VICE-PRESIDENT formally moved that the President should be authorised to call upon the Secretary of the Local Government Board.

Mr. HARRISON said that the population of some workhouses was more than that of some villages, and it was absurd that the dispensers in these workhouses should not be required to be qualified to dispense poisons.

Mr. HILLS hoped while the President pointed out the high standard of the Minor, he would also have some regard for the standard of remuneration of poor-law dispensers. (Hear, hear)

Mr. RYMER YOUNG, speaking from personal experience, said that many of the army compounders were ignorant and incompetent men.

Mr. MARTINDALE suggested that a deputation, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Mr. Bottle, and Mr. Atkins, should wait upon the Local Government Board.

Mr. ALLEN thought the President alone would meet the case better, and it might be important to point out that it is a matter which came into the Pharmaceutical Society's scope entirely, for it related to the safety of the public.

Mr. SOUTHALL mentioned that a year ago Sir Walter Foster had spoken to him of the poor-law dispenserships, and he had explained to him all about the Minor and Major, and he seemed then to agree that the standard should be maintained—indeed, his opinion on the matter was very strong. He (Mr. Southall) could not understand the change.

The PRESIDENT: Perhaps it has been forced upon them by another Department.

Mr. HILLS: It cannot be the new one. (Laughter)

#### RESEARCH.

Attention was then called to the following report regarding the Research Laboratory, and reporters were requested to withdraw while it was being considered:—

Report of a committee consisting of the President and Vice-President, Messrs. Allen, Atkins, Bottle, Gostling,

Hampson, Hills, and Martindale, to "inquire into and report to the July Council to what extent the objects aimed at in the equipment of the Research Laboratory have been attained," and to "report any suggestions that may occur to them for the conduct of the laboratory for the future."

The Council at its meeting on January 4, 1893, passed the following resolution:—

1. That the sum of 300*l.* a year be granted for the next three years to a committee to be appointed annually by the Council, and to consist of the President, the Vice-President, and two other members of the Council, with instructions to make such arrangements with the professor of chemistry as will enable advanced students and others to undertake pharmaceutical research under his direction and that of the committee. The committee, which shall be called the Research Committee, shall meet monthly, except during the vacation, or oftener if required, and shall report from time to time to the Council. The committee shall have power to add to their number three other persons, not necessarily members of the Society, as additional members of the committee.
2. That the Research Committee be authorised to fit up the two laboratories on the top floor of the new building; the other two rooms on the same floor to be fitted, one as a balance and store room, and the other as an ordinary writing-room, for the use of the professor and members of the committee, at a cost not exceeding 300*l.*

Three years afterwards—viz., on March 7, 1891—the Council, on the advice of the Research Committee, adopted a report which recommended—

That the direction of the laboratory be in future one of the regular duties of the professor of chemistry, the general control being vested as heretofore in a committee to be appointed annually by the Council. That the laboratory be provided with gas, water, coals, and stationery, and that 150*l.* per annum be paid to the committee for the purpose of providing apparatus, materials, and assistance. That the deficit of 17*l.* on the three years' working be paid by the Treasurer. That the Research Committee consist of the President, Vice-President, Mr. Greenish, and Mr. Schacht, with the addition of Mr. C. Ekin, Professor Michael Foster, Professor Frankland, and Dr. Lauder Brunton as external members. That the sum of 200*l.* be paid annually to the professor of chemistry so long as he is engaged in original research, and undertakes the personal direction of the work of advanced students and others in the Research Laboratory. That the Library, &c., Committee be authorised to make the additions to the Research Laboratory recommended in the last report of the Research Committee. That an account of the researches already made be collected and published during the present year. The above recommendations to take effect as from January 1, 1891.

The committee has held four meetings, and has most carefully considered the subject referred to by the Council. The director was present at a long meeting of the committee, and explained the nature and extent of the duties he had to perform at St. Thomas's Hospital, and as an examiner to certain institutions. The director assured the committee that he had not in the past, and would not in the future, allow these additional duties to interfere with his primary duty as director of the Research Laboratory, in the conduct of original research, and the personal direction of the work of advanced students and others in the Research Laboratory.

The committee is of opinion that the completed work which has emanated from the laboratory is, on the whole, satisfactory, and reflects credit on the Society.

The basis upon which the research work has proceeded has been to follow the system of the various pharmaceutical institutes abroad, where students, after a certain number of years' training, have to do original work in the chemical investigation of drugs.

The workers in the Research Laboratory consist largely of students from the Society's School of Pharmacy, and the majority of these students, though they have passed the Major examination, have not the advanced knowledge and extended experience of the students in continental institutes. As a consequence, it follows that each year many of the workers require special training to perform chemical and physical operations before they are available for research work. Students enter the laboratory with a view to obtain more advanced chemical and physical knowledge, and it is important that they should have that opportunity as a reward for devoting themselves to research work.

With regard to the future conduct of the laboratory, the



committee is of opinion that, concurrently with such work as has already been undertaken, it is desirable that attention be devoted to the chemical and physical examination of substances used in medicine, whether official or non-official.

The committee feels that some disadvantage has arisen, owing to the fact that the Council, as a whole, has not been kept continuously informed of the work going on. For this reason the committee recommends that the Director of the Laboratory attend the meetings of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee as a part of his duties; that the Research Committee be instructed to report to the Council twice a year; and that all the papers resulting from work done in the Research Laboratory appear in the Society's journal, either in abstract or in full, as may be determined from time to time by the Research Committee, whether published in the transactions of other scientific societies or not.

The committee thinks it important that the Research Committee should include members who are in touch with bodies associated with physiological and therapeutic work, and realises that one of the main objects sought in the establishment of the Research Laboratory was the systematic chemical investigation of drugs, the results of which might be submitted to physiological and therapeutic experiments. The committee recommends that the Research Committee for the ensuing year consist of the following:—

THE PRESIDENT,	} <i>Members of Council.</i>
THE VICE PRESIDENT,	
WALTER HILLS,	
WILLIAM MARTINDALE,	
GEORGE F. SCHACHT,	
CHARLES ERIN,	} <i>Pharmaceutical Chemist.</i>
T. LAUDER BRUNTON, F.R.S.	
MICHAEL FOSTER, F.R.S.	
EDWARD FRANKLAND, F.R.S.	

July 2, 1895.

After an hour's interval our reporter returned, and a motion that the report be adopted was agreed to *nem. con.*

Some correspondence was then submitted, including a letter from the Cape Agent-General's Department, introducing Mr. Pocock and suggesting a consideration of reciprocity in regard to certificates.

#### APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSORS.

The present professors and teachers of the School of Pharmacy were reappointed.

Mr. MARTIN had a motion on the paper calling upon the Council to consider Professor Dunstan and Mr. Carr's paper on the aconitine controversy, but he said he saw no reason for going on with it, as he had not a seconder. It was agreed to consider the matter in committee, and in a few minutes our reporter was informed that business was over.

#### NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

A MEETING of the Executive was held in the Society's House, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Friday, June 23. Mr. J. L. Ewing presided, and there were also present: Messrs. Bowman (Leith), Coull (Edinburgh), Currie (Glasgow), Davidson (Montrose), Fisher (Dunfermline), Gibson (Edinburgh), C. F. Henry (Edinburgh), Kerr (Dundee), Lunan (Edinburgh), McAdam (Glasgow), Moir (Glasgow), Neshit (Portobello), Strachan (Aberdeen), and Johnston (Aberdeen). Apologies were intimated from Messrs. Harrison (Sunderland), Paterson (Aberdeen), Storrar (Kirkcaldy), and Hardie (Dundee).

#### ELECTIONS.

The first business on the programme was the election of a Chairman of the Executive.

Mr. KERR proposed that Mr. Ewing be re-elected. He said they knew that Mr. Ewing wished to retire, but they were all aware of the great interest he had taken in the alterations on their premises, and that he knew more than anyone else about them, and it would be a great comfort if he would continue to occupy that position for another year. It would be for the true interests of the Society if he did so; and, besides, he had the full confidence of the constituency, because he had been sent to the Executive at the head of the poll.

Mr. CURRIE seconded the motion, and said his acceptance of the position would give unbounded satisfaction to Scottish pharmacists.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. EWING thanked Mr. Kerr and Mr. Currie for their kind words, and the meeting for having elected him. Although he wished to retire at this time, he had no other alternative but to accede to their request. He would do his best to deserve their confidence.

Mr. LUNAN proposed Mr. Currie as Vice-President, which was seconded by Mr. KERR and agreed to; and Mr. CURRIE returned thanks.

The CHAIRMAN referred to the retirement of Mr. Kinninmont (Glasgow) from the Executive, and proposed the following resolution:—

The Executive has already recorded its high appreciation of the long and faithful services of Mr. Kinninmont in connection with his retiral from the Board of Examiners, two years ago; but we cannot allow the occasion of his retiral from the Executive to pass without a renewed expression of our appreciation, accompanied by a wish that he may enjoy a measure of good health and happiness for some years to come.

It was agreed to minute the resolution and send an extract to Mr. Kinninmont.

The Chairman also referred to the retirement of Mr. Noble and Mr. Sutherland, and welcomed Mr. Bowman, Mr. Coull, and Mr. Moir as new members of the Executive.

#### GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN moved that himself, the Vice-Chairman, and the local members of the Executive should form, as heretofore, the General Purposes Committee.

Mr. NESBIT thought that, seeing that the members of the Board of Examiners were now not expected to take places in the Executive, it would be a very convenient arrangement and a great advantage to the Society if they could have in connection with the committee two members of the Board of Examiners as members of the General Purposes Committee. If they had no power to elect them, they might memorialise the Council in London to enable them to do so.

Mr. FISHER said he had much sympathy with what Mr. Nesbit said. It would be an advantage to the Executive to have two members of the Board of Examiners to work along with the General Purposes Committee, but he was afraid it could not be done.

The CHAIRMAN said that to appoint two members of the Board of Examiners to the General Purposes Committee would be going beyond their constitution. He did not think it was necessary, because in practice they found no difficulty when any question arose connected with the Board.

After some further conversation Mr. Nesbit withdrew his suggestions.

#### THE LABORATORY.

The CHAIRMAN reported that, at the request of the Board of Examiners, alterations had been made in the dispensing room, where the shelving on the centre hench had been lowered, it being too high; and in the chemical department a very large cabinet had been made for holding chemical specimens.

#### RECONSTRUCTION OF OLD PREMISES.

The CHAIRMAN also reported that Mr. Neshit, Mr. Lunan, and himself, along with Mr. Blanc, the architect, had prepared a plan and estimated cost of the proposed reconstruction of the old premises, which he had submitted to the Council in London. There were several of the details of the plan which the Council did not see their way to approve of, and they agreed to refer the matter back to the Executive. He suggested that the matter be sent back again to the committee for a report. It would require careful consideration, as there were several things that their friends in London wanted to be done which in the meantime he did not see could be done. The matter was sent back to the committee, Mr. C. F. Henry being added to the committee.

#### THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

The CHAIRMAN said that last year they appointed a committee to go into the question of the appointment of examiners and report to the November meeting of the Executive. Under the new constitution two members of the Board



retired each year, and it would be necessary to consider the names and qualifications of persons who might be suggested to fill these vacancies. He proposed that the matter be remitted to Mr. Storrar, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Currie, Mr. Strachan, Mr. Nesbit, and himself for report. This was agreed to.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The question of what form the opening meeting next session should take was referred to the General Purposes Committee.

Messrs. Ewing, Currie, and Nesbit were appointed delegates to the next Pharmaceutical Conference at Bournemouth.

Mr. CURRIE raised the question of the mode of electing the Executive, pointing out that under the present system it was possible that in a new Board there might not be one of the old members returned, and the new Board could not be in a position to carry on the business. He suggested that one-third or two-thirds of the Board should retire annually by rotation. The CHAIRMAN said the proposal would involve an alteration of their constitution. In practice the present mode worked this way—that almost all the old members were re-elected. The subject then dropped.

Mr. COULL gave notice of a motion in favour of having the Preliminary examination made a test of the capability of the candidates from an academic point of view by raising the standard and extending the scope of the examination. Mr. MOIR asked if this Preliminary examination was legal. There seemed to be some doubt about that. Mr. GIBSON said it was a part of the qualifying examination. Mr. J. R. HILL read the 8th section of the Act of 1852, and Mr. COULL said that a year or two ago Mr. Carteighe expressed doubt as to its legality, but the words "any other subjects that may from time to time be decided" covered the whole thing.

The meeting then terminated.

## Legal Reports.

### SALE OF POISONS IN IRELAND.

#### JUDGMENT IN THE CASE OF FANNIN & CO.

WE briefly reported the result of the prosecution of Messrs. Fannin & Co. last week, the Magistrate (Mr. Swift) having given judgment in the Southern Divisional Police Court of Dublin on June 27. The case was heard on June 6. The defendants, Mrs. Margaret Fannin and Mr. Richard W. Booth, trade as Fannin & Co., at 41 Grafton Street, Dublin, and carry on business as medical booksellers and publishers, surgical-instrument makers, and vendors of drugs. They were called on to answer three summonses, at the suit of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, charging them with having kept open shop for the sale of poisons, and with having sold a preparation of morphine and corrosive sublimate contained in chloride-of-mercury tablets to George A. Phillips, Inspector of the Society, on February 13 and March 15 last, without being properly qualified to do so. The defendants admitted the sales, and contended that they were entitled to sell on the ground that their business had been conducted under the supervision of Dr. John M. Whittaker, a licentiate of the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh, and on other grounds.

Mr. George Collins (Messrs. Casey & Clay) appeared for the prosecution; and Mr. Fleming, instructed by Messrs. Goodbody & Tisdall, for the defendants.

Mr. Swift, in recapitulating the facts of the case, mentioned that Mr. Thomas Eustace Fannin carried on the business for many years before his death in 1883, the branch of it involving the sale of drugs having been under the management of Dr. Whittaker since 1864. Mr. Thomas Fannin's will recited that he carried on the business of a medical bookseller and publisher and surgical-instrument maker, but made no allusion to his selling drugs; and then bequeathed all his business assets to his trustees and executors, two of whom were the present defendants, upon trust that they should after his decease, if they should see fit, either wind-up or dispose of the business, or carry it on until the younger or the survivor of the testator's two sons should attain the age of 21 years; and then, if carried on, it was to be handed over to them equally subject to a life provision

for the testator's wife. Dr. Whittaker was examined for the defence, and proved that he obtained his degrees in the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in Edinburgh in 1880; that he had had sole control of the drug-business since 1864; that he had had an interest in the profits since before Mr. Fannin's death; and that practically the drugs had been sold only to medical practitioners and nurses. He admitted that he had never taken out a diploma in pharmacy, and that he was not a registered chemist or druggist, nor a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland. He believed he had a certificate at home of having attended a three months' course in pharmacy. That document was subsequently produced, and showed that the three months were gone through in the establishment of a licentiate apothecary in Dublin in 1879. Dr. Whittaker further admitted that he had not personally sold the poisons—the subject of the summonses—and that they had been sold by an unqualified assistant. He also deposed that the late Mr. Fannin was not registered as a chemist. Mr. Booth was examined, and admitted that when Dr. Whittaker was away on vacation or otherwise there was no qualified person in charge of the drug business. Mr. Clay, for the prosecution, submitted that, as the defendants did not come under any of the protected descriptions contained in section 30 of the Irish Pharmacy Act of 1875, they had incurred the penalty of 5*l.* for each unlawful sale. Mr. Campbell, Q.C., for the defendants, claimed that his clients were within the spirit, if not within the letter, of the exemptions. His first contention was that the defendants were partners either with each other, or with each other and Dr. Whittaker, and that the principle of the case of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain v. the London and Provincial Supply Association, decided by the House of Lords in 1880, applied to the case of partners. The decision there was that the word "person" in sections 1 and 15 of the English Pharmacy Act of 1868, corresponding to the 30th section of the Irish Act of 1875, did not include corporations, mainly on the ground that a corporation could not pass an examination; and Mr. Campbell contended that the word "person" in section 30 of the Irish Act could only apply to individuals. In support of that view he referred to a case mentioned in what seemed to be a very useful little publication, "The Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom: their History and Interpretation," issued at the office of the well-known periodical, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. It was a case of *Bremridge v. Gray and Others*, being a prosecution by the Pharmaceutical Society of England against seven partners in a limited company trading as chemists and druggists in Edinburgh. The action was brought in the Summary Court before Sheriff Rutherford, who came to the conclusion that the respondent and shareholders had infringed the Act, and gave judgment against them individually for certain fines. The defendants appealed to the High Court of Justiciary, which reversed the Sheriff's decision, holding that the decision of the House of Lords in the London and Provincial Supply Association case applied. In consequence of what had fallen from some of the judges in the House of Lords' case, it was conceived that the members of a corporation, if sued as individuals, could be made individually liable; but the Court of Justiciary held that that view was inconsistent with the legal notion of a corporation, and so the prosecution failed. But the decision by no means proved that the principle of the House of Lords' case applied to partners properly so called; and he (Mr. Swift) had come to the conclusion that it did not so apply, even assuming that there was a partnership in the present case. He had the authority of a most eminent lawyer, the late Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Alexander Cockburn, for saying that the word "person" in the Act included partners. He said at page 316 of the report of the House of Lords' case in 4th Queen's Bench Division:—"It was fully admitted in the argument, nor could it be contested that if this had been an ordinary partnership the individual partners—at all events such of them as were not qualified under the statute—would have incurred the penalties it imposes." That passage went to show that not only would a partnership between the unqualified defendants in the present case not save them, but also that they would not be saved by having in partnership with them Dr. Whittaker, who, Mr. Campbell contended, and apparently rightly, himself came within the exemption at the end of section 30 of the Irish Act as being a legally



qualified medical practitioner. That the same principles did not apply to a partnership as to a corporation further appeared from the distinctions between them pointed out in Lord Justice Lindley's work on "Partnership" at page 20. It was there stated that—

A corporation, it is true, consists of a number of individuals, but the rights and obligations of those individuals are not the rights and obligations of the fictitious person composed of those individuals: nor are the rights and obligations of the body corporate exercisable by or enforceable against the individual members thereof, either jointly or separately, but only collectively as one fictitious whole. With partnerships the case is otherwise: the members of these do not form a collective whole distinct from the individuals composing it, nor are they collectively endowed with any capacity of acquiring rights or incurring obligations. The rights and liabilities of a partnership are the rights and liabilities of the partners, and are enforceable by and against them individually.

But independently of the view he had stated, he (Mr. Swifte) was clearly of opinion that there was no partnership in the present case, and that the position of the defendants with respect to their business was that of co-owners, as trustees and executors, and not partners. Dr. Whittaker not being a partner but a paid servant, partly paid by a commission on his orders or a percentage on the profits. Under the late Mr Fannin's will it would have been a breach of trust for the defendants to have taken Dr. Whittaker into partnership. What was the late Mr. Fannin's legal position in his lifetime as to the sale of poisons? He was in business as a vendor of drugs since 1854. Until 1870 he could sell poisons unrestrictedly, except arsenic (the Arsenic Act was passed in 1851). The Irish Sale of Poisons Act of 1870 directed somewhat similar precautions, as in the case of arsenic, to be observed in the sale of a number of other specified poisons, but still left everyone otherwise free to sell them. It was the Act of 1875 which first required in that country certain personal qualifications from the sellers of poisons; but that enactment did not affect Mr. Fannin, who was exempted from the penalties of section 30 by the saving clause in section 31, with regard to the business of chemists or druggists practising in Ireland on their own account at the time of the passing of the Act. The clause, however, did not extend to permitting him to compound poisons or medical prescriptions. The qualified permission given to the personal representatives of "pharmaceutical chemists" and "chemists and druggists" respectively actually in business at the time of death was expressly limited to the case of a person "registered" in either of those characters under the Act. Section 22 stated how persons might become registered, and it did not appear that Mr. Fannin could have been so registered without passing the examination prescribed by section 21. It was admitted that he never was registered. It seemed plain that he was entitled to carry on his business up to 1888, when he died; but that if he wished to have the power of making it transmissible under section 32 he should have had himself registered under the Act either as a "pharmaceutical chemist" or a "chemist and druggist." If he had lived until after the passing of the Irish Pharmacy Amendment Act of 1890 he would, under its 6th section, have lost the immunity which the 31st section of the Act of 1875 gave him, and he would have been obliged to get himself registered under section 6 of the Act of 1890 as a "chemist and druggist" if he wished to continue to sell poisons, but that he could have done without passing any examination; whilst, on the other hand, there was no provision in that Act making his business transmissible. Mr. Campbell contended that his clients were within the equity, as he called it, of section 32, on the ground that as Mr. Fannin was in no default in not getting himself registered under the Act of 1875, since he was not obliged to do so, as he died two years before the Act of 1890 made registration compulsory, he should be looked on as if he had in effect been registered under the earlier Act. He (Mr. Swifte) could not adopt that view. There was the further point that, even if Mr. Fannin had been duly registered under the Act of 1875, Dr. Whittaker, whom the defendants had employed as their assistant, though no doubt highly qualified as a general medical practitioner, did not possess the special qualification required by the 32nd section for a "duly qualified assistant," because he was not a "pharmaceutical chemist or a chemist and druggist registered as such" under that Act. Apparently, Mr. Campbell wanted to have the

equity doctrine of *cy pres* imported into that criminal prosecution, for he claimed that because Dr. Whittaker was qualified as a physician and surgeon, and had passed a course in chemistry, he satisfied the requirement of section 32 as to a "duly qualified assistant." That he could not do. Having referred to the Apothecaries' Company v. Collins, 5th Carrington & Payne 519, decided in England in 1833, as showing that a University diploma was no defence to an action for practising as an apothecary without having obtained the certificate of the Apothecaries' Company, and remarked that a barrister's superior knowledge of law did not entitle him to practise as a solicitor, and also to the recent Irish case of McGann v. Kelly, 2nd Irish Reports, 1894, as establishing that section 30 of the Act of 1875 was not repealed by section 15 of the Act of 1890, and also that in petty sessions districts the 5*l.* penalty could not be reduced, Mr. Swifte said the argument of Mr. Campbell that seemed to him at first to present the greatest difficulty for the prosecution was his contention that as Mrs. Fannin could not be registered under the Act she should be held to be exempt from its operation on the principle adopted in the House of Lords' case. Counsel had argued that if the late Mr. Fannin had only left daughters, the Act would not apply to them, as they could not qualify as chemists. There would be a good deal in that contention if there were any inherent disqualification in a woman from passing an examination in pharmacy. But, from the *Dublin Gazette* of February 23, 1877, it appeared that the Lord-Lieutenant and Privy Council approved of a regulation made by the Council that—"Women may be admitted to the examinations for pharmaceutical chemists on and after October 1, 1876, provided they shall have complied with the regulations of the Council." Similarly, soon after the passing of the Act of 1890, a like regulation was sanctioned, admitting women to the examination for the licence to act as registered druggists; and in the register of "registered druggists" published on the Society's calendar for that year there appeared the names of about a dozen women. Therefore, the argument on that head completely failed. Mr. Campbell said that the protection of the public was the main object of the Pharmacy Acts. That was no doubt so; and it was therefore somewhat disquieting to hear the admission made in the present case that the three poison sales in question were all actually made by a totally unqualified assistant. That would go to show that the merits of the case from the point of view of the protection of the public were against the defendants. As to the legal aspect of the case, therefore, he (Mr. Swifte) felt no difficulty in deciding against the defendants. Referring once more to the "Manual on Poisons Law" at page 184 he found that the late County Court Judge Purcell, a highly-competent lawyer, gave, in September, 1882, the opinion that section 32 of the Irish Act of 1875, authorising executors, administrators, or trustees, to carry on a business, only applied to the representatives of pharmaceutical chemists or druggists who had been registered as such during their lifetime, and that others who did so incurred the penalty imposed by section 30. He need hardly say, however, that he had formed his opinion on the case quite independently of the opinion of Mr. Purcell. He must, therefore, convict the defendants; but as he had power under section 63 of the Dublin Police Act to mitigate the penalty in these cases, he would impose on the defendants the mitigated fine of 3*l.*, with 10*s.* costs in each case, making a total of 10 guineas. He had come to that conclusion mainly on the ground that the issue to be tried might have been disposed of by one summons instead of three.

Mr. Collins: We ask you to impose the full penalties.

Mr. Swifte: I will not do that. I think this case might have been tried just as well under one summons. Besides, the defendants met the case very fairly. They did not put you to proof, but admitted all the facts.

Mr. Hayes (who was in Court) said they were perfectly satisfied with his Worship's decision. Mr. Campbell had said that he (Mr. Hayes) had been a prime mover in the case. He did not claim to be so at all. He had simply felt compelled, as the head of the Society, to carry out the law. It had been painful to him to take any action against his friends, Mrs. Fannin and Dr. Whittaker, and in the course of the long correspondence that took place he endeavoured to get them to yield to what he knew must be the Magistrate's decision. The defendants knew very well that the mem-



bers of the Council were not influenced by any personal motive.

Mr. Swift said, the President's observations were very becoming. He (Mr. Swift) was sure that it was from forbearance towards the defendants that the prosecution had been delayed so long.

Dr. Whittaker said that, speaking for himself, he knew very well that the matter was not a personal one with Mr. Hayes. His (Dr. Whittaker's) firm merely wanted to test their rights, and they were quite contented with the Magistrate's decision.

#### SALE OF ARSENICAL SHEEP DIPS—CASE DISMISSED.

AT Roscommon Petty Sessions, on July 1, before Mr. R. L. Brown (Chairman), Mr. John Neilon, and Mr. William Tully, the adjourned hearing was resumed of five summonses at the suit of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland against Miss Jane E. Jones, Mr. James Jones, and Mr. Antony Cowdy, having a place of business in Castle Street, Roscommon, to recover penalties from the defendants for having on March 1 last kept open shop for the sale of poisons, and sold to the Society's inspector Cooper's sheep dipping powder and Biggs's sheep-dip, both containing arsenic, without being properly qualified to do so under the Pharmacy Acts, and also for having sold those preparations without their being labelled as the Poisons Act requires. Since the day on which the case was last before the Court, a sixth summons had been taken out against Mr. Henry Jones, who, it was alleged, was a co-owner of the defendants' premises.

Mr. J. M. Whelan, solicitor, prosecuted on behalf of the Society.

Mr. S. St. Lawrence Burke, solicitor, appeared for the defence, and read the following letter from Mr. Cowdy:—

DEAR SIR,—Having been informed that five summonses were left for me at the private residence of Miss Jane Jones, Roscommon, and having been advised that as I do not reside there the service is bad, please inform the Court of Petty Sessions that I must respectfully decline to appear, and if an order is made against me, please take whatever steps are necessary to have the same quashed.

The letter was dated from Muckamore, county Antrim June 27.

Mr. Whelan said that on the last day the Magistrates held the service of the summonses on Mr. Cowdy to be insufficient.

The Chairman: Because he had not time to appear.

Mr. Whelan: The fact that Mr. Burke is authorised to appear as his solicitor is sufficient to warrant you in any order you may make against him.

Mr. Burke: I do not think you held that the service was good. You said that Mr. Cowdy had not been served. Mr. Cowdy states that he has nothing to do with the place, and that he has no residence here.

Mr. Whelan: I will prove that Mr. Cowdy has an interest in the place.

Mr. Burke: There must be some proof that he has some connection with the town before he can be subjected to a fine of 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and sent to gaol if he does not pay.

Mr. Whelan: This is quite out of order. I do not know what Mr. Burke wants. We will make our case as well as we can, and if we fail the Magistrates can dismiss it.

The Chairman: We adjourned the case on the last day simply because we did not think there was sufficient time to enable him to appear. We considered the service proper otherwise; we will stick at that ruling and hear the case.

Mr. Whelan said that since the last day he had inspected the will of the late Mr. John Jones, and found that Miss Jane Jones, Mr. James Jones, and Mr. Antony Cowdy were executors under it, and that the premises in which the poisons in question were sold were by the will bequeathed—

Mr. Burke objected to the reading from a copy, certified or otherwise, of a document in existence, and the Chairman supported this objection.

Mr. Whelan asked the Bench to join the name of Mr. Henry Jones with those of the other defendants in the summonses against them, but the Chairman said they would hear the adjourned summonses first.

Mr. George A. Phillips, inspector of the Pharmaceutical Society, deposed that on March 1 last he visited the establishment of Messrs. Jones, and purchased there the packages,

which he produced, of Cooper's sheep-dipping powder and Biggs's sheep-dip. The names of the sellers did not appear on either package.

Mr. Whelan said the package of Biggs's dip was labelled "Poison" on the outside.

The witness, in continuation, said he saw the name "John Jones" over the door.

Cross-examined by Mr. Burke: I did not proceed against Mr. John Jones, because he is dead.

Mr. Burke: That is extraordinary, for his name appears in the Society's calendar for this year.

Mr. Whelan: The book was amended previous to his death.

The Chairman: We are not dealing with that now.

Mr. Burke (to the witness): Are you aware that you are liable to a penalty for aiding and abetting anybody in this sort of work?

Mr. Whelan: You can summon him next day.

Mr. Burke read a sub-section of section 22 of the 14th and 15th Victoria, chap. 93, providing that "every person who shall aid, abet, counsel, or procure the commission of any offence which shall be punishable by summary conviction shall be liable to be proceeded against and convicted for same either jointly with the principal offenders or before or after their conviction, and shall be liable on conviction to the same forfeitures and punishments as the principal offenders."

Professor Charles Tichborne, Public Analyst of Dublin, deposed that he had analysed the contents of the packages. The Cooper's sheep-dipping powder contained sufficient arsenic to poison about 500 adults, and the Biggs's sheep-dip enough arsenic to poison 1,000 adults.

Mr. John Kerr, called by Mr. Whelan, deposed that he was in the employment of Miss Jones at present, and was in that of the late Mr. John Jones before he died.

In whose employment have you been since?—There never was any change.

Mr. Burke objected to this evidence as an attempt to prove what should be proved by document.

Mr. Whelan (to witness): Is Miss Jones the owner of these premises?

Mr. Neilon: How can he tell?

Mr. Whelan (to witness): Who are your employers, Mr. Kerr?—I don't think I should answer the question.

Oh, but you must answer it; who are your employers—who is the owner of the premises in Castle Street?

Witness: I could not tell.

Do you swear on your oath that you cannot?—I do.

Who pays your salary?—Miss Jones.

Has Mr. James Jones anything to do with it?—don't be looking at Mr. Burke for inspiration.—Mr. James Jones is there. All my time I never saw any change.

Does he superintend?

The Chairman: Evidence of that kind would not be conclusive to us at all.

Mr. Whelan showed witness a document referring to a process at the last Quarter Sessions of Roscommon, in which he gave evidence. The plaintiffs were there named as "Jane E. Jones, spinster, and James Jones, gentleman, both of Roscommon, and Antony Cowdy, of Green Hill, Armagh, executors of John Jones, deceased." He asked, Are these the persons managing the business at present? The witness said Miss Jones and Mr. James Jones were managing the business at present. Mr. Henry Jones had nothing to do with it so far as he knew. He was bookkeeper in the establishment. Mr. John Jones died in March, 1893. Miss Jane Jones and Mr. James Jones attend in the shop, and have control of the department where the sheep-dips are sold. Mr. Antony Cowdy takes no part in the business.

Mr. Whelan submitted that he had made a case against Miss Jones and Mr. James Jones.

Mr. Burke argued that they had not got to the owners of the establishment at all; and, secondly, it had not been shown that Miss Jones and Mr. James Jones were not licensed.

Mr. Whelan handed in the Society's register, and said that if there had been any change in the premises since Mr. John Jones's death it was for the defendants to have reported it to the Society. But they had been trading under false colours, under the name of Mr. John Jones, that gentleman being two years dead.

The Chairman: Was no notice sent to the Society?



Mr. Whelan : None whatever of his death.

The Chairman : It is the Registrar of Deaths in Ireland that should send the notice.

Mr. Neillon : You said that John Jones's name is still on the register for 1895. It is for the Society to prove that no notice of his death was served on them by the proper person.

Mr. Burke said it did not appear that any notice or letter was sent to the house to see whether Mr. John Jones was dead or alive. Under section 18 of the Amendment Act of 1890 the Registrar of the Society had power to write a letter inquiring the name of the proprietor of premises where poisons were sold. About the middle of March or in April the police called at the premises, and stated that Mr. Jones was dead, and that they could not sell any more poisons, and since that date no poison or sheep-wash had been sold in their house.

Mr. Whelan said he asked Mr. Burke would Mr. James Jones accept responsibility, and he wrote :—"In reply to yours of the 25th, our client will let the Society take its course in this very harsh and uncalled-for prosecution." The fact that Miss Jones and Messrs. James and Henry Jones were the owners of the premises was proved by their own witness.

The Chairman : The easy way would be to produce the will.

Mr. Whelan : You should have been satisfied with the copy of it.

The Chairman : It is for you to prove that you are proceeding against the right persons.

Mr. Whelan : I submit that Miss Jones and Mr. James Jones are the owners of the establishment, and I ask you to convict in their names alone. You may do what you like with the other names. We have been met here with every possible objection to this prosecution, which is brought in the interest of the public. These poisons might be obtained by any tramp in the town.

The Chairman : What about Mr. Cowdy ?

Mr. Whelan : You can dismiss him.

After the Magistrates had conferred,

The Chairman said : The opinion of the Bench is that it has not been satisfactorily proved that the persons named in the summons are the owners of this place, and, therefore, we dismiss the case.

Mr. Whelan : You dismiss it without prejudice.

Mr. Burke : I ask you to dismiss it on the merits.

The Chairman : We dismiss it on the merits.

Mr. Burke : We have been here three days, and I ask you to give us some costs.

The Chairman : It is a prosecution in the public interest. We will not give you costs.

#### ADULTERATION CASES.

##### DEFECTIVE GINGER

At the Manchester City Police Court, before Mr. Yates, Q.C., on Thursday, June 27, these cases were decided :—Arthur Barton, of Urmston, for selling ginger which contained upwards of 50 per cent of spent ginger, was fined 10s and costs ; so also was Sarah Wilshaw, of Urmston, for selling as ground ginger a worthless residue. She stated that she purchased the ginger, in tins labelled "Pure Ground Ginger," from a Mr. Parish.

#### WARRANTY UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

ON June 29 at, Skipton, Ann Pickles, grocer, was summoned under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, for selling tincture of rhubarb deficient in alcohol. The analysis of the sample showed extractive matters, 4.86 ; alcohol, 35.62 ; water, 59.52. The alcohol was only about three-fourths the quantity directed by the B.P. The inspector admitted in cross-examination that the bottle from which the sample was supplied bore a label with the words "Guaranteed B.P. strength." The defence was that the defendant thus had a warranty within the meaning of the Act, Section 25, but that she was liable for costs because of not giving notice of her intention to rely on the warranty. In support of this contention Mr. Robinson, solicitor, quoted "Laidlaw v. Wilson," in which a contract for the sale of pure lard, together with

an invoice accompanying, and containing the words "Two barrels pure lard," was relied upon by the respondent as a warranty under the section, and his contention was upheld. The label on this bottle was, he urged, the same as its being contained in the invoice. Inspector Randerson, in reply, contended that the label on the bottle was a description only ; if decided otherwise it would be impossible for him to take any legal proceedings against the wholesale people. He quoted the case "Farmers' Dairy Company v. Stevenson," in which the Magistrates held that the words "Pure, genuine, and new milk, unadulterated, and with all its cream on," contained on the labels, were a description only. The High Court held that the labels, together with the contract, amounted to a warranty within the meaning of the section. But it appeared that the label alone was not sufficient ; had the invoice with the same words on been put in, it might possibly have been a warranty. The Magistrates held accordingly, and fined the defendant 10s. and costs.

#### LARD.

In a prosecution under the Foods and Drugs Act, at Houghton-le Spring, Mr. Wm. Stock, public analyst to the Durham County Council, gave evidence, and stated that a sample of lard contained 10 per cent. of cotton-seed oil. He made three tests by Conroy's method, and one by a method of his own. For the defence, Mr. E. Bevan, F.I.C., analyst for Middlesex, stated that he had found no indication of the presence of cotton-seed oil. Dr. W. C. Williams, assistant to Dr. Campbell Brown, analyst for Liverpool and Manchester, and Mr. E. W. Taylor Jones, F.I.C., public analyst for Staffordshire and other places, gave similar evidence.

Eventually the Bench decided to send the reserved sample to Somerset House for analysis.

#### SHOP-FITTING DESIGNS.

MESSRS. PARNALL & SONS (LIMITED), of Bristol, brought an action last week against a grocer at Cirencester to recover cost of preparing plans and specifications, amounting to 10l. 15s. 9d., for fitting a shop. The defendant had asked Messrs. Parnall & Sons to call upon him with reference to certain alterations in his shop. Their representative called, and had an interview with defendant, but nothing was said as to any competition, and plans and specifications were subsequently prepared and left with the defendant. These, it afterwards transpired, were shown to a competitor, who got the contract. The county court Judge before whom the action was tried said it looked as if the plaintiffs had been treated rather shabbily, but it did not show any cause of action. There was no breach of contract. The defendant said he had expressed his willingness to pay 2l. 2s. to the plaintiffs for the trouble they had taken, and it was admitted he had improperly shown the plans to the rival contractor. The plaintiffs' counsel said his clients only troubled his Honour with the case on a matter of principle and on behalf of the trade. His Honour said the question arose whether there was any contract, either express or implied, on the part of the defendant to pay for these plans as prepared by Messrs. Parnall, and he was of opinion that there was not, and consequently that there was no cause of action. Messrs. Parnall could protect themselves if they chose when they gave an estimate by saying that unless they got the job they would have to make a charge for their estimate, or if their plans were shown to anyone else and used they should require a certain percentage. They could have made a contract if they liked, but there was no contract either express or implied. The defendant, having gone out of his way to do a shabby thing, felt he must do something to make amends and offered the plaintiffs 2l. 2s., and in his (the Judge's) opinion that was quite enough under the circumstances. Whether it was fair payment for the work was another question. Judgment would be entered for the defendant, with costs.

#### RIVAL TEETHING-POWDERS.

THE case of Gunnee v. Leeman came before Mr. Justice Kekewich last week on a motion for judgment. The defendant was unrepresented. An interim injunction was obtained on February 15 last.



The proceedings against Mr. Leeman were instituted in consequence of his having, as was stated, sold quantities of teething-powders, not of Messrs. Gunnee's manufacture, made up in yellow wrappers of a similar colour and appearance to Messrs. Gunnee's wrappers, and marked "Gunnee, Chariot Street, Hull," the defendant having no right or title to use the name of Gunnee, there being only one firm of the name of Gunnee in Hull.

After hearing counsel his Lordship granted a perpetual injunction restraining the defendant or his agents from selling or passing off the plaintiffs' goods, and in particular from selling any teething-powders not of the plaintiffs' manufacture by use of the name of Gunnee, or by use of packets similar to the plaintiffs', or by any such means; and the defendant was ordered to deliver up all packets and wrappers in his possession or possession of his agents, in imitation of the plaintiffs' packets and not manufactured by them, and all stamps, dies, and stereos for stamping the name of Gunnee; and defendant was further ordered to pay the costs of the action.

#### THE COMPANY AND THE CONTRACTS OF ITS PREDECESSORS.

GRIERSON, OLDHAM & CO. (LIMITED) *v.* FORBES, MAXWELL & CO.—This action came on for hearing in the Second Division of the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on Thursday last week, when their Lordships pronounced judgment on a reclaiming note for Grierson, Oldham & Co. (Limited), of Regent Street, London, W., against the defendants, who carried on business in Aberdeen. The plaintiffs asked for employment of a contract between the defendants and Grierson, Oldham & Co., dated January 1, 1894, and alternately for damages for breach of that contract. The plaintiffs alleged that Grierson, Oldham & Co. agreed to advertise in their circulars the non-intoxicating wine called "Mersnao," which the defendants manufactured, and that the defendants agreed to pay them 200*l.* per annum for the advertisements. The defendants paid for the advertisements for the half-year ending June 30, 1894, but they refused to carry out the other part of their agreement. The defendants contended that they had no contract with the plaintiffs, but with Grierson, Oldham & Co., whose business was taken over by the plaintiff company in October, 1894. They contended that the plaintiff company had no title to sue on the contract.

Lord Kincaidney found that the plaintiffs had no title to the contract, and dismissed the action, and the Second Division now adhered to the decision of the Court below, with costs for the defendants.

#### A DISPUTE AS TO THE SALE OF OPIUM.

ON Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Mathew and a jury, sitting in the Court for the trial of commercial causes, the case came on for hearing of *Helbig and others v. Ruffer & Son*. Mr. E. Tindal Atkinson, Q.C., and Mr. Abrahams appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Fletcher Moulton, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. Henry Manisty represented the defendants. The action was brought to recover damages from the defendants on the ground that they had sold opium, upon which they had made advances, to a greater extent than was necessary to cover such advances; and that they had also been reckless in placing it upon the market in too large quantities, thereby causing a reduction of price in the opium-market, and thus enabling them to realise much less than they would have obtained had they not so acted. The defendants denied any liability, said that they had acted within their rights in selling, and alleged that the prices they realised were the best obtainable in the market. The plaintiffs were the trustees of an estate of a merchant in Constantinople who had become bankrupt, and the defendants were merchants in London. Messrs. Ruffer had made certain advances to the trader at Constantinople, and in July, 1893, they pressed him to give them a further margin, they contending that they had not got the 15 per cent. margin which it had been agreed they should have. The Constantinople merchant contended that with the goods Messrs. Ruffer had in hand, consisting of opium, they were more than covered by a margin of 15 per cent for the advances they had made to him. Ultimately, in the

beginning of September, 1893, Messrs. Ruffer first commenced to sell the goods of the Constantinople merchant. The market for opium (said counsel for the plaintiffs) was an extremely limited one. There were only two brokers in London who dealt with the drug in anything like large quantities. Commencing to sell the opium in September, Messrs. Ruffer continued on in the month of October, the plaintiffs, so far, having no cause of complaint as to the way in which the drug was put on the market. The lots, except in one or two instances, were never large, and the market was not much affected. Although it was known to Messrs. Ruffer that, early in October, the merchant at Constantinople had become bankrupt, and although there was upon the statement of claim an allegation that Messrs. Ruffer had no right to sell, on the ground that they were fully covered for their advances, Mr. Tindal Atkinson said he agreed that it would be rather difficult for the trustees to make out any claim for damages in regard to the sale, inasmuch as the person to whom they had made advances having become bankrupt they would be entitled to deal with their security in their own way. It must be shown, however, that in doing so they had acted with due care. In October the sales of opium realised from 9*s.* to 11*s.* per lb. In December the prices began to drop, the defendants putting large quantities on the market. Within a couple of days of Christmas Day the defendants, utterly regardless of the estate of the bankrupt, and with a view to getting rid of the opium at whatever sacrifice, sold between December 27 and December 30 many cases of opium which realised something less than 8*s.* per lb. The plaintiffs contended that these prices represented a mere slaughter of the goods, and that if Messrs. Ruffer had held their hands, and had put the balance of the goods on the market in the same way as in the previous months, there would have been a difference in price of from 10 to 15 per cent. By December 29 they had sold sufficient to cover them for every single sixpence which was due to them from the bankrupt, therefore the sale of opium on December 30 was absolutely unwarranted. They sold on December 30 certain cases of opium at from 8*s.* 3*d.* down to 7*s.* per lb., a course which, counsel submitted, they were not justified in taking.

Mr. Monlton and Mr. Manisty, for the defendants, argued that the conditions under which they had been agents for the Constantinople merchant, entitled them, when he failed to carry out his agreement with them, to sell the opium to protect themselves, of course on the understanding that they did their best to obtain the highest prices that were possible. This they had done. There was a limited market for opium in this country, and there happened to be only two brokers, who would be called to show that the prices realised were the best that could be obtained at the time.

For the plaintiffs a large amount of evidence taken on commission in Constantinople was put in; and for the defendants certain oral evidence was adduced bearing out counsel's statement that the best prices had been realised.

Mr. Justice Mathew summed up at some length, leaving the following questions to the jury:—(1) Whether the Constantinople merchant had agreed to increase the percentage from 5 to 6 per cent. on the advances? (2) Whether the defendants were justified in selling?

The jury returned an answer in the negative to the first question; and, in regard to the second, they found that the defendants were justified in selling, except as to the amount they sold on December 30, by which time they had already covered their advances.

His Lordship gave judgment in accordance with these findings, and afterwards counsel saw the judge in his private room to arrange as to the figures.

#### TURPENTINE TIGHT OR WATER-TIGHT.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN, SONS & CO., of "Embrocation" fame, on Thursday, through Mr. Jelf, Q.C., with him Mr. Herbert Smith, appealed to the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Kay and Smith, from a judgment of Mr. Justice Mathew hearing, without a jury, an action against them to recover 112*l.* balance due on a contract to supply defendants with twelve tanks for storing turpentine. The contractor plaintiffs in the action were Messrs. Burney & Co., of Thames Street, London, and against their claim the defendant ap-



pellants pleaded not only that the tanks were unfit for the purpose, but that, having filled the tanks with some 1,000*l.* worth of turpentine, on the plaintiffs' assurance that they had been tested before leaving their works and proved watertight, a quantity of the turpentine escaped and was lost, besides doing great damage. The defendants, therefore, asked for a verdict on the plaintiffs' claim, and they counter-claimed for a return of 100*l.* they had paid on the delivery of the tanks, together with the damage consequent on their leakage and non-suitability for the purpose for which they were ordered. This order was given on a detailed specification drawn up by defendants' architect, and providing for galvanised tanks "suitable for the storage of turpentine, and to be thoroughly tested before leaving the works." In answer to defendants' request for a price-quotation on this specification, plaintiffs wrote that the size prohibited the tanks being galvanised, but suggesting that they could supply them painted, or, if galvanised, smaller and "guaranteed watertight." Defendants wrote an acceptance of the smaller tanks, "the specification to be as previously," which meant, Mr. Jelf submitted, that, galvanised or merely painted, the tanks should be "suitable for the storage of turpentine." This, he pointed out, required a tank of different quality and strength of construction than a mere water-tank.

The Master of the Rolls pointed out that the contract, whatever it was, ruled the case, and the learned Judge below found that plaintiffs would not tender for, or offer to make, galvanised tanks of the size required; what they offered was tanks "guaranteed watertight."

Even then Mr. Jelf submitted the verdict should have been for the defendants, as they proved that, although the tanks were tested for water previously to leaving plaintiffs' works—and testing them with turpentine would have been a costly experiment—on their being placed *in situ* they were found to leak for want of stays, the tanks having buckled in the dipping for galvanising, and crannies were created in the seams, through which the turpentine penetrated.

After two-thirds of the day had been exhausted by appellants' counsel in supporting their arguments in the case, Mr. Chitty, for the respondent plaintiffs (with him Mr. Herbert Reed, Q.C.) submitted that the learned Judge below was right in holding that the question at issue was whether the contract was for turpentine-tight tanks or—as he contended—for tanks tested by water, as those in question had been.

The Master of the Rolls said he thought the judgment right, and that the appeal should be dismissed. Plaintiffs, in response to defendants' application for his price for tanks, wrote that they could not make them as suggested, but they could make others—painted tanks, or smaller galvanised tanks, and guaranteed watertight. Moreover, defendants did not reject the tanks when they found them defective, but sent to plaintiffs to send their men and put them right.

The Lords Justices concurring, the appeal was dismissed, with costs.

PURE PRUSSIC ACID is such a deadly poison that, supposing a small bottle of it were broken in the centre of a crowded theatre, only those nearest the door would escape with their lives. So says the *Evening News*. May we add?—one drop of it on the end of a dog's tail would kill a man in a minute.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. — EXHIBITORS' COMMITTEE.—The exhibitors who have organised themselves into a committee to look after their interests met on June 27, and elected the following executive committee:—President, Mr. J. Weiss; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Richardson, Mr. H. S. Wellcome; Treasurer, Mr. Rebman; Secretaries, Mr. H. W. Lane (Armour & Co.), Mr. Blau (Hoff's Malt Extract Company); Auditors, Mr. Mayer, Mr. Van Abbott, together with the following—Messrs. Ball (Oppenheimer, Son & Co., Limited), Longmate (Allen & Hanburys, Limited), Hickey (Parke, Davis & Co.), Down (Down Brothers), Shorrocks (Bovril, Limited), Essinger (Hartmann's Sanitary Wood Wool Company, Limited), Arthur (Arthur & Co.). Most of the well-known firms generally exhibiting at the British Medical Annual Museum have subscribed to the Exhibitors' Association, and it is believed that by concerted action advantages can be obtained for exhibitors generally.

## Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will of Mr. William Squire, of Hanwell, chemist and druggist, who died on February 11 last, has been proved by Mr. William P. Mitchell, cemetery superintendent, Hanwell, the sole executor, by whom the value of the testator's personal estate is sworn at 360*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

Mr. James Richard Gardner, pharmaceutical chemist, of Stonehouse, having died intestate on January 10, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to Mrs. Amelia Gardner, 13 Napier Terrace, Plymouth, the deceased's widow, by whom the value of the personalty is sworn at 481*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

The will and codicil of Mr. William Taylor, of Bridlington Quay, chemist and druggist, who died on September 6, 1894, has been proved at the District Registry by Mrs. Sarah Taylor, the deceased's widow and sole executrix. The gross value of the testator's personalty is sworn at 203*l.*, and the net at 133*l.*

The will of Mr. Sidney Smith, retired chemist and druggist, of 38 Flexton Road, Urnston, Lancs, who died on December 3, 1893, has been proved by Mrs. Amelia Miriam Smith, the widow and sole executrix, by whom the gross personalty is sworn at 1,062*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, the net value being 1,020*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

The will of Mr. Charles Love, of Northgate, Launceston, chemist and druggist, who died on December 21, 1894, has been proved by Mrs. A. L. Love, the widow, and Miss Sarah Love, the daughter, of the testator. The gross personal estate is sworn at 765*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, the net value being 279*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*

The will of Mr. Thomas Griffiths, late of Clifton House, Llandoverly, retired chemist and druggist, who died on February 20, 1894, has been proved in London, by Dr. John Howell Griffiths, physician and surgeon, Greenwich, the son and sole executor, by whom the value of the testator's personalty is sworn at 318*l.* 4*s.*

The will of Mr. Nicholas Cunliffe, of Bolton, chemist and druggist (retired), who died on February 12 last, has been proved by Mrs. Elizabeth Cunliffe, the widow, and Mr. Thomas Nightingale, 26 Lyon Street, Bolton, the executors therein named, by whom the value of the testator's personalty is sworn at 2,114*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* gross, and 2,046*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* net.

The will of Mr. Thomas Barraclough, of Chapeltown Road, Leeds, chemist and druggist, who died on May 14, 1894, has just been proved at Wakefield by Mrs. Sarah Ann Barraclough, the widow and sole executrix, by whom the gross value of testator's personal estate is sworn at 371*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, the net being 308*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* There are no lease-holds.

At the Principal Probate Registry, the will of Mr. B. W. Price, formerly of 21 High Street, Dorking, chemist and druggist, but late of 8 Ladbroke Crescent, Redhill, where he died on January 20, 1894, has been proved by Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchen Armstrong Price, deceased's widow and sole executrix, by whom the gross value of the personalty is sworn at 551*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, and the net at 535*l.* 11*s.*, and the stamp duty 13*l.* 15*s.*

The will of Mr. Moritz A. H. Zimmermann, drug-merchant, who died at his residence, Apley House, Frixton, on February 26, has been proved by Mr. Jacob Zimmermann, one of the executors—Mr. Ferdinand A. Zimmermann, of 21 Mincing Lane, the other executor nominate, having renounced probate. The testator's gross personalty is sworn at 5,272*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, but that chargeable with death duty amounts to 4,672*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*

The will of Mr. William Henry James, of Astley House, Faringdon (proprietor of Lieutenant James's Blisters), has been proved at the District Probate Registry by Mrs. Mary Ann James, the widow, and Mr. George Edwin Bye, of Faringdon, the acting executors, power to prove hereafter being reserved to Mr. Thos. Eagle Bye, the other executor nominated. The testator's gross personalty is sworn at 622*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, and the net at 545*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*



## Bankruptcy Reports.

### A CHEMIST'S CLAIM.

AT Truro Bankruptcy Court, on Saturday, an application was made on behalf of Mr. E. J. Hurdon, chemist and druggist, Camelford, against the decision of the trustee (Mr. F. Dawe) in rejecting the proof of Mr. Hurdon almost in its entirety in the bankruptcy of T. B. Burns, of Camelford. It appeared that debtor owed Mr. Hurdon 1,166*l*.

The Judge ordered Mr. Hurdon's proof to be admitted to the amount of 1,173*l*., and he allowed applicant his costs.

### Re AUGUSTUS JAMES FENNER, Beevor Hall, Barnsley, Chemical Manufacturer.

THIS bankrupt appeared for public examination at the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court, on June 27, with liabilities of 4,326*l*., and assets nil. In the course of his examination the debtor stated that he was at present engaged in chemical experiments for the purpose of eliminating sulphur from coke, and had taken out provisional protection for a process which he believed would ultimately become successful. He had been in partnership with a Mr. Paterson, as chemical manufacturers, in Bradford, Manchester, and Sheffield. That partnership was dissolved in February, 1894, and a balance-sheet taken prior to that date showed the debtor to be indebted to the firm to the amount of 1,700*l*. He admitted having received amounts owing to the firm, and having used them for his own purposes, and without the knowledge of his partner. After the dissolution his partner prosecuted him in the Manchester Police Court for having embezzled money. The defence to that prosecution was that the moneys taken had reference to the partnership, and should have been treated as matters of account, and the magistrate dismissed the case, saying that a summons ought never to have been taken out. The debtor admitted that he had never had any money of his own, and that a sum of 1,500*l*. which he put into the partnership business was advanced by the bank upon his father-in-law's guarantee. The father-in-law had been required to pay the amount to the bank, and had sought to make the partner (Mr. Paterson) liable. He admitted having contracted debts since the dissolution which he had no expectation of being able to pay. One was a debt to a yacht-builder, at Fleetwood, for a sailing-boat, and to whom there was now due a balance of 59*l*. This was in April, 1894. Among other debts were items of 40*l*. to one tailor, 8*l*. to another tailor, 50*l*. to a wine-merchant, and 3*l*. 15*s*. for cigars and the like. The examination was adjourned to July 25.

## Gazette.

### PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Balkwill, F. H., and Brittan, A. K., under the style of Balkwill & Brittan, Plymouth, surgeon-dentists.

Brookes, J. G., and Green, W. W., under the style of Brookes & Green, Mincing Lane, E.C., general produce brokers.

Greenslade, C. J., and Botwood, C. W., under the style of Greenslade & Botwood, Rochester, dentists.

McVean, J. D., and Main, G. A., under the style of McVean & Main, Mossley, physicians and surgeons.

Westmorland, J., and Maisey, C. T. B., Manchester, physicians and surgeons.

### THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

Page, William, and James, William Henry (trading as the City Oil Company), Birmingham, oil refiners and merchants.

#### ADJUDICATIONS.

Clarke, William Henry, Farnworth, Lancashire, mineral-water case manufacturer.

Keall, Francis, Ilfracombe, chemist and druggist and dentist.

Slater, Richard, Blackburn, late commercial traveller, afterward mineral-water manufacturer, now out of business.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

Askew & Porter, 54 and 145 High Street, West Sunderland, and 26 Ryhope Street, Ryhope Colliery, chemists and druggists. (Partners, John Robert Askew and Andrew Bower Porter, both of 3 Blandford Street, Sunderland.) Trustee, Robert A. Brown, Sunderland, accountant. Dated June 24; filed June 28. Unsecured liabilities, 563*l*. 6*s*. 11*d*.; estimated net assets, 510*l*. Creditors fully secured, 635*l*. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Askew, Charles, Ulverston .. .. .	50	0	0
Banker's Claims .. .. .	23	0	0
Bleasdale (Limited), York .. .. .	26	0	0
Bourne, Johnson & Latimer, London .. .. .	17	0	0
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool .. .. .	40	0	0
Foulston, W. L., & Co., Hull .. .. .	12	0	0
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds .. .. .	12	0	0
Lofthouse & Saltmer, Hull .. .. .	14	0	0
Meng, F., Sunderland .. .. .	20	0	0
Pinshon, Ralph, Sunderland .. .. .	20	0	0
Sanderson, A., & Co., Hull .. .. .	10	0	0
Silcox, Cuzner & Co., Hull .. .. .	23	0	0
Wilkinson & Simpson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne .. .. .	224	0	0

Fuller, George Sydney, 130 High Street, Notting Hill, late chemist. Trustee, William Judd, 76 Cannon Street, City, accountant. Dated June 25; filed June 27. Unsecured liabilities, 273*l*. 0*s*. 3*d*. Estimated net assets, 54*l*. Creditors fully secured, 26*l*. 18*s*. 5*d*. NOTE.—The debtor has recently sold his business, and is now temporarily residing at the same address. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Butler & Crispe, London .. .. .	34	0	0
Christie, —, London .. .. .	10	0	0
French, — (collector), London .. .. .	13	0	0
Gilbertson & Son, London .. .. .	10	0	0
Idris & Co. (Limited), London .. .. .	22	0	0
Meggeson & Co., London .. .. .	21	0	0
Willows, Francis & Butler, London .. .. .	69	0	0

Honnan, Alfred Taylor, 343 Upper Street, Islington, High Street, Stanmore, and The Bridge Pharmacy, Harrow, chemist and druggist. Trustee, George White, 14 Old Jewry Chambers, City, accountant. Dated June 19; filed June 26. Unsecured liabilities, 427*l*. 12*s*. 8*d*. Estimated net assets, 75*l*.

## Trade Notes and Novelties.

MESSRS. NEWBALL & MASON, of Nottingham, have received a first-class certificate from the jurors of the Tasmanian Exhibition for their exhibit of extract of herbs.

MESSRS. OPPENHEIMER, SON & CO. (LIMITED) inform us that each of their thyroid palatinoids now represents 5 grs. of the fresh substance instead of  $\frac{1}{16}$ th of a g and a g.

MR. J. H. BATES, of 7 Strait Bargate, Boston, Lincolnshire, brings to our notice a patented tag or tally, the improvement being a piece of stiff wire so twisted as to fix it firmly in a sack if thrust through the material. The tallies can, of course, be attached very rapidly and easily.

MESSRS. TIDMAN & SON (LIMITED), of Bushell Street, London, E., have got up an attractive card on which are fixed a dozen of their new "Hermitage Pocket Flasks" of lavender-water and eau de Cologne. The retail price of the flasks is 6*d*. each, the perfumes are good, and the bottle looks like a good sixpennyworth. A decent profit is left besides for the retailer.

THE office of the Chemists' Co-operative Society has been removed to 2 New Court, Carey Street, W.C. This, we understand, is only a temporary resting-place. The recently-appointed managing director, Mr. J. A. Jessop, of Bradford, favoured us with a call one day this week, and expressed a good deal of confidence in the future of the company, as well as in the good intentions of the board of directors towards vendors, shareholders, and the trade generally.

THE FRAME FOOD COMPANY (LIMITED) have drawn up a plan designed to ensure to retailers of their specialities (Frame Food diet, extract, jelly, stamina-tablets, cocoa, and drink-syrup) a minimum profit of about 10 per cent. on their sales. Wholesale and retail firms are both called on to sign agreements, and the company ask for information

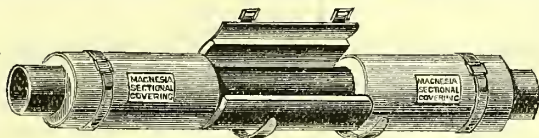


in regard to anyone selling below minimum prices. They desire the advertised retail prices to be obtained if possible.

**MELLIN'S ANTI-CUTTING SCHEME.**—Mr. G. Mellin, replying to the letter we published signed "Anti-cutting Agreement," which appeared in our last issue, writes:—"We respectfully wish to point out to the trade generally that our object in protecting the retailers was suggested by dozens of our customers; and after a deal of trouble and thought, and considerable inconvenience, we have succeeded in obtaining a minimum profit for all, notwithstanding that in some cases where carriage is very heavy this is reduced to a mere fraction of a penny if the price fixed by the retailer is such as to exactly comply with conditions. But, as we have pointed out, we trust they will take a much larger profit. Anyhow, granting that only a very small profit is now made, some few months since our goods were sold at an absolute loss in Edinburgh and many other towns we could mention, and also as close home as Richmond. Surely some little thanks of the 'anti-cutting' man ought to be given to us, as he now shows a profit instead of a loss when competing with cutting firms. We would point out that 'Anti-cutting Agreement's' calculation is also wrong, as Mellin's food does not cost 18s. 6d. per dozen, our lowest price being 19s."

**MESRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME & Co.** send us samples of three new kinds of tabloids, which we think there is a place for in galenical pharmacy. One we suggest as almost of universal application as an antiseptic—viz., Dr. Carl Seiler's nasal tabloids. These contain sodium benzoate, bicarbonate, borate, and salicylate with menthol, eucalyptia, thymol and wintergreen oil, and dissolved in cold water provide an alkaline antiseptic solution which is much valued in the United States for treating nasal and pharyngeal affections, either by spray or gargle. The solution is an excellent mouth-deodorant, and can therefore be used as a mouth-wash and gargle. The Gregory's powder tabloids (5 gr.) embody an improvement which has been suggested by a leading practitioner—viz., the use of a part of sodium bicarbonate in place of as much calcined magnesias. The tabloids, therefore, contain the essential elements of Gregory's powder, but the presence of the soda gives prompt action when the tabloids are required as a gastric corrective. The third sample is a vin. ipecac. tabloid, each of which, though weighing less than 2 gr., contains 5 min. of the wine. An excellent tabloid for mothers taking with the children to summer resorts.

**BOILER AND PIPE COVERING**—A few weeks ago we had an inquiry regarding boiler-covering, and in reply to it the Washington Chemical Company (Limited), Washington Station, Durham, sent us information about their magnesia coverings which, we think, will interest manufacturing chemists generally. This covering is composed of light carbonate of magnesia and an inflammable and light inorganic fibrous material, the whole being so designed that for the maximum of non-conducting efficiency we have the minimum of thickness and weight. The efficiency of the covering as a non-conductor has been the subject of investigation by experts, who have proved it to hold first rank in this respect. The covering is made in sections, such as blocks, hollow cylinders, and special shapes, jacketed with canvas. Those for steam-pipes are made in hollow cylinders, divided longitudinally, and secured around the pipes with metallic bands as shown in the illustration. All these forms can readily be



applied by any unskilled workmen with ease and rapidity when the pipes are either hot or cold. In the event of alterations the coverings may be removed and replaced without injury. Small steam-pipes down to  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch bore can be as easily covered as large pipes. It will be apparent to anyone with laboratory experience that this device is one of great utility. Steam has sometimes to be carried a long distance, and the loss of heat during the passage is frequently great. In such cases the covering is particularly useful. The company will supply to any inquirer fuller particulars regarding the covering.

## Personalities.

**MR. ALDERMAN BREEZE**, chemist and druggist, of Catherine Street, Davenport, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for that borough.

**MR WM. PARKINSON**, chemist and druggist, Clevedon, Burnley, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the county of Lancashire.

**THE trustees of Columbia College** have now decided to grant the Barnard Medal to Professor Ramsay as well as to Lord Rayleigh for their discovery of argon.

**ON account of his business engagements**, Mr. Edward Evans, Junr., of Liverpool, has declined several invitations from Liberal organisations who were anxious to secure him as a candidate in their respective constituencies.

**MR. H. E. HALL**, who for a number of years was on the staff of this journal, is now with Mr. Peter Müller's firm, for whom he is to call upon medical men and chemists with the view of making their new hydroxyl-free cod-liver oil better known.

**MR. H. T. WADE DEACON**, a well-known alkali manufacturer, will again contest Widnes (where he was defeated by a majority of 205 in 1892) at the coming election as a Liberal, against his old opponent, Mr. J. S. Gilliat, the sitting member.

**MR. W. H. LEVER**, of the Port Sunlight Soap-works, Cheshire, has accepted an invitation to contest Birkenhead at the coming elections. Mr. Lever, who stands as a Radical and Labour candidate, contested the borough at a by-election last year, when he was defeated by a small majority.

**The appointment of Mr. R. Forbes Carpenter**, chairman of the Manchester section of the Society of Chemical Industry, to the chief-inspectorship under the Alkali Act, has necessitated his resignation from that post, and Mr. George E. Davis, the first hon. secretary, has been unanimously elected.

**MR. R. R. HALLAWAY**, a student in pharmacy, son of Mr. John Hallaway, pharmaceutical chemist, Carlisle, has passed his final examination for associateship in science at the Durham College. He took honours in chemistry, and obtained the prizes awarded for practical and inorganic chemistry.

**MR. C. C. HUTCHINSON**, a well-known member of the Eighty Club, and a partner in the firm of Johnson & Co., chemical manufacturers, of Stratford E., will contest the borough of Croydon as a Liberal at the forthcoming election. Mr. Hutchinson is said to have been the pioneer of the eight-hour movement in this country.

**DR. J. H. GLADSTONE, F.R.S.**, has been taking so much interest in shop-windows that at the last Royal Society *conversazione* he showed a collection of photographs of them, not for the purpose of exhibiting how they are dressed, but to draw attention to an incrustation of hoar frost obscuring the windows with remarkable curvilinear patterns.

**ALDERMAN RICHARD WINFREY**, of Spalding, Lincolnshire, pharmaceutical chemist, who some years ago was President of the London Chemists' Assistants' Association and connected with one of the West-end pharmacies, is the Liberal Parliamentary candidate for South-west Norfolk, a constituency now represented by a Conservative. Alderman Winfrey forsook pharmacy some years ago for journalism, but still takes a lively interest in his old craft. He is an Alderman of the Lincolnshire County Council.

**THE new Premier**, as many people know, is an accomplished practical chemist. Lord Salisbury's knowledge of the science, the pursuit of which is one of his chief recreations, is turned to practical use in the agricultural industry in which the owner of Hatfield takes such a great interest. A member of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST staff visited Hatfield a couple of years ago, in company with a party of journalists, and inquired of the major-domo where the Marquis's laboratory was situated, and whether it was open for inspection. The answer was that Lord Salisbury possessed a beautifully-equipped laboratory in the basement of the castle, but that no visitors were admitted to it. "His Lordship," said the major-domo, "has personally fitted up the electric-light installation which was introduced in the castle a short time ago."



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### SHOP-HOURS (EARLY CLOSING) BILL.

In the general Parliamentary wreck Sir John Lubbock's Bill,  
 providing a local and separate trade option in regard to  
 shop-hours, has been, of course, submerged; but its promoter  
 assures us that it is his full intention to begin again next  
 year. The report of the evidence taken before the Select



Committee has just been published, and to so much of it as relates especially to chemists and druggists we shall hope to make further reference later on. The position reached with the measure was that it passed a second reading in the House of Commons on February 19, and was referred to a Select Committee. The Committee, over which Sir John Lubbock presided, held fourteen sessions, and heard evidence from thirty-nine witnesses, all of whom were in some way representative. The evidence showed that there is a very strong desire all over the United Kingdom in favour of some legislative interference with excessive shop-hours. The Committee reported to the House on May 21, but made no recommendations. They had gone through the Bill clause by clause, and made certain amendments in it. One was of importance to those shopkeepers who hold Post-office appointments. It provides that nothing contained in any order made under the Act shall interfere with the transaction of Post-office business by the occupier of a shop who is also a Post-office officer. Sir Blundell Maple tried to make the requisite majority of any trade which can bring the Act into operation four-fifths instead of two-thirds, but this proposal was defeated. Mr. Tennant carried a new clause allowing tradesmen who carry on more than one business to be distinguished for voting purposes under the Act if their premises are *structurally* separate; and Sir Blundell Maple carried an amendment to leave out the word "hot" from the clause which exempts from the operation of the Act shops where "hot cooked provisions" are supplied. The effect of that amendment no doubt, would be to exempt grocers and, of course, confectioners. When the Bill was re-committed, Sir J. B. Maple and the Marquis of Carmarthen gave notice of opposition, which effectually blocked further progress for the present year.

#### TRANSVAAL CHEMISTS AND THE POISONS ACT.

UP to last month chemists in the South African Republic, or Transvaal, to give it the name by which it is more generally known, lived and dispensed in a state of unfettered freedom, for pharmacy law there is none in their country, and of a Poisons Act no one had ever heard. It is true that about a year ago the "Volksraad," or Parliament of the Boer Republic, passed a law for the registration of medical men and pharmacists, but the chief object of that measure appears to have been the provision of funds, a "licence" being practically given to anyone who has a foreign certificate to show and is prepared to pay 10*l.* a year. The position of the Transvaal is unique among nations in this respect—that among its white population the aliens almost equal, if they do not actually outnumber, the native element. The influx of white foreigners is the work of the last twelve or thirteen years, and the result of the gold discoveries at Witwatersrand; and the Boers, who form the ruling class, have hitherto successfully prevented the "outlanders," as they contemptuously call them, from obtaining citizen rights, and, possibly, seizing the reins of the Government. The men of business in the Transvaal are almost entirely "outlanders," the pharmacists being predominantly British or Afrikaner. Now the "Volksraad," or Parliament, is almost entirely made up of Boers, or native Dutch; its laws are, we believe, published only in Dutch, the official language; and it is no uncommon thing for alien white inhabitants to be prosecuted and fined under Acts with the existence of which they were previously unacquainted. That seems to have been the unfortunate position of about a dozen of the leading pharmacists in Johannesburg, who on June 5 ignominiously occupied the

dock at the first criminal court of that town to answer a charge of contravening Articles 9 and 11 of Law 12 of 1886 by selling poison without a proper permit from the Landdrost (a sort of police-magistrate) or a duly qualified medical man.

In the course of the proceedings it transpired that the law in question had never been put into operation, and that, in fact, most of the accused were hardly, if at all, aware of its existence. Moreover, although the constitution of the Transvaal says that any Bill before being passed by Parliament must be published in the Official Gazette for the space of three months, the measure in question had only been published once or twice; hence, parliamentary reporting being probably an unknown art in the South African Republic in those days, the parties most interested were not given a fair opportunity of pointing out its unworkable character or petitioning against it.

The Act of 1886, it appears, prohibits the sale by pharmacists without a permit from the local police-magistrate or a medical man, not only of all poisons, but of all preparations containing poison. Singularly enough, all "Dutch medicines," or old household remedies of the Boers, are exempt, and thus it comes to pass that a chemist may not sell laudanum over the counter without a permit, but is at liberty to sell a preparation known as "Endres droppels," a dose of which contains considerably more opium than a dose of tinct. opii. Similarly the free sale of tartar emetic is forbidden, but there is no check upon the supply of *wit vomities*, a Dutch household remedy practically synonymous with antim. tartar. Another anomaly in the law is that cyanide of potash, arsenic, strychnia, and other poisons used for gold-mining, sheep farming, or the destruction of vermin may be dealt in wholesale without any trouble, and that there is apparently no control over their use, open packages of cyanide being common sights about the mining camps, while their retail sale by pharmacists is restricted in the manner indicated above.

The prosecutions, which were instigated by one Solomon Hirschfeld, a "special inspector of licences," who employed a decoy named Jacobus du Preez to go round the Johannesburg chemists' shops to purchase "Rough on Rats," were practically all unsuccessful, owing to the want of care with which the evidence had been prepared; but in one instance a defendant was fined the minimum penalty of 5*l.* He gave notice of appeal, and it is not unlikely that the sentence may be reversed by the higher Court. In the meantime, one of the results of the prosecutions has been to bring about the formation of a Pharmaceutical Society among the Transvaal chemists, who, united, may obtain better terms than they could singly. The Johannesburg prosecutions were the first ever undertaken under the 1886 Act.

#### HUXLEY.

WITH the exception of Charles Darwin, medicine has during the present reign given few men to science of such note as Thomas Henry Huxley, who died last Saturday. As a biologist of distinction his name may not be heard of for many generations, nor is it attached to a large number of notable discoveries or great researches; but there is probably no man now living who has done so much as Huxley to create respect for science, and to free it from that close, narrow spirit which allowed its votaries to stand isolated, or to pose as a set of superior persons whose interests were not common interest, whose knowledge was for themselves alone. Huxley was all for spreading the light, and he did it.

To speak of the work of this man as a biologist or physiologist is a matter of some difficulty, because since those



early achievements in the study of medusæ and hydrozoa which secured him the fellowship of the Royal Society in his twentieth year (1851), Huxley has been more notable as a lecturer, controversialist, and creator of an ethical cult than as an investigator. But it would be a mistake to say that he did nothing in the latter domain all these years; indeed, his researches are regarded by anatomists and physiologists as of the highest importance, and it was mainly on account of them that he held such important appointments as the professorship of natural history at the Royal School of Mines and the Fullerian chair of physiology at the Royal Institution. There are few honours in science which Huxley did not receive, and this circumstance could not have been without solid merit on the part of the recipient. Much of Huxley's work was of a character that interested only specialists and teachers, and it deals with such subjects as the evolution of the Crocodilia, the classification of birds, the Dinosauria, fossil fishes, Glyptodon, the affinity between reptiles and birds, *Ceratodus*, the cranial and dental structure of the Canidæ, reproduction and morphology of *Aphis*, and the development of *Pyrosoma*. In short, the history and structure of animals of many types were his constant study, and the verdict of Ernest Hæckel that Huxley was the first zoologist among his contemporaries is not far from the truth.

But, as we have said, it is not on account of these researches that Huxley was famed among his countrymen; it was his popular side which appealed to them, and that was a most attractive one. It would be idle to suppose that all who have come under Huxley's influence have been the better for it, because, while he was yet a young man, he had made up his mind about many things that some of us regard as the most weighty of life's problems, and his solutions of them always leant to the dogmatic side. As an apostle of Darwin, he out-Darwined his master, and elevated the *Origin of Species* to something akin to a code of ethics. Naturally he ere long came into conflict with theologians, and from advocacy of a scientific theory he expanded into denouncement of doctrine and faith. This he did from platform and periodical in vigorous English; indeed, few Englishmen of modern times have approached Huxley in his mastery of the Anglo-Saxon tongue, and to the simplicity of his language is largely due the popularity of his writings. His "Elementary Physiology" is a text-book in many training colleges as much for its style as for its subject-matter. His essays have influenced the intellectual youth of this country more than those of any other scientific writer, and those who studied under him during his professorial days say that he was a careful teacher, and one who made good students enthusiastic about their work. Huxley retired from his official posts in 1886, and in 1892 he was admitted to the Privy Council, an honour thus for the first time conferred upon a scientific man for his science. At that time it was reported in *Nature* that he had been allowed to leave the Government service without recognition. We have good reason for stating that this annoyed Huxley very much, as he received ample recognition both from Mr. Gladstone's Government and Lord Salisbury's. England is none too generous to her research workers; but it is a credit to us that political differences do not blind our leaders to the merits of scientific men.

#### CITRONELLA OIL.

Few oils are more largely used nowadays in soap-manufacture than oil of citronella. Within the last ten years the exports of citronella oil from Ceylon, now the only country counting for anything in the production of the article, have

increased threefold, and there seems hardly any limit to the capacities of its employment in the soap-industry. Formerly a good deal of citronella oil distilled by a European manufacturer used to reach our markets from Singapore; that particular brand, as well as another prepared by a European distiller in Ceylon, was considerably dearer than the "native" distillate, which composed the bulk of the supply, and both are now rarely met with in the open market. The great increase in the production of citronella oil in Ceylon has gone hand in hand with a depreciation of the article, which was arrested only when the last margin of profit had disappeared, and when, in consequence of the energetic action of one or two large buyers, adulteration of the oil with kerosene—long a favourite method of certain distillers and exporters of turning a dishonest penny, while yet keeping pace with competition—had been rendered so easy of detection as to become almost impossible. In 1881, when the export of citronella oil from Ceylon was less than one-seventh of last year's shipments, the price of "fair native brands" in the London market averaged about 3½d. per oz. (the year before, during a temporary outburst of speculation, it touched 6d. per oz.), but in January, 1888, the same quality could be bought in London at 7½d. per oz. The screw of competition could not be turned on any tighter than that figure, and in a trustworthy Ceylon report issued shortly afterwards we were told that, although the cultivation of lemongrass and citronella plants for distilling purposes had attracted much attention in the western and southern provinces of the island, yet at the price then ruling a European distiller could make no other profit than was obtainable from the sale of the manure made from the grass after distillation. In that year the area under citronella and lemongrass in Ceylon was estimated at about 10,000 acres, but in 1892, in spite of the unenviable market position of the article, the estimated area under cultivation had increased to about 25,000 acres, and it was then believed that over 450 native stills were employed in the industry. The subjoined figures, indicating the exports of citronella and lemongrass oils in ounces (an old-fashioned way of quoting the article which ought to have been abolished long ago) during the last fourteen years afford an indication of the enormous development of this industry:—

1881	1882	1883	1884	1885
1,950,501	2,940,046	3,916,398	4,997,333	6,570,132
1886	1887	1888	1889	1890
6,745,794	8,828,573	10,559,465	10,263,433	14,569,075
1891	1892	1893	1894	
15,263,581	13,512,626	10,696,481	15,015,532	

The statistics here given refer to citronella and lemongrass oils together, no separate records being kept of the two, but as the use of lemongrass oil is insignificant compared with that of citronella the first-named oil may be left out of account for practical purposes.

Until last autumn the price of citronella oil showed little or no improvement, but a moderate advance then began to take place, and within the last two months there has been a further important rise, the quotation of "fair native oil" in drums having advanced from 9½d. per lb, c.i.f. terms, last March, to 1s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f. terms, at the present moment. This unusual rise is partly due to speculation. Citronella oil has long been a favourite article of speculation with a few Mincing Lane houses, and this spring two or three of these firms appear to have sold oil on contract for future delivery without ascertaining whether there would be any difficulty in obtaining the material in the country of production. When the time came for covering their sales it was found that citronella oil had suddenly become scarce in Ceylon. It is said that the drought of last season had



destroyed part of the crop, and as both citronella and lemon-grass require a great deal of moisture, though they grow in poor soil, that statement may be true, but as the grass is cut and distilled twice a year a prolonged scarcity is not probable. Anyhow, the speculators were caught. They succeeded in purchasing a portion of the required supplies in America, where the use of citronella oil, formerly very large (in 1892 the States imported nearly 6 millions of ounces, in 1893 only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  millions), has greatly declined in the last two years; but when the Americans realised the real position of affairs they became buyers themselves, and with this fresh demand the Ceylon shippers have been able to run up their quotations still farther. The first shipments of the summer distillation are due in London in August, and in all probability prices will again recede then, although a selling-price of less than 1*d.* per oz. seems to be an abnormally low one for the article. It is said that the consumption of citronella oil has increased enormously since last year, when the manufacturers of a much advertised soap began to use it largely.

### ANOTHER BISMUTH-DROP.

THE most interesting commercial event of the week in pharmacy has been the renewed reduction on the price of bismuth metal on the part of the Bolivian mine-owners, which was announced on the last day of June, exactly thirteen months after the first great breach in the solid Convention-fortress which had occurred since 1884. It will be remembered that on June 1, 1894, the "Convention" people suddenly reduced the price of metal from 7*s.* 3*d.* per lb., at which it had stood for ten years, to 4*s.* 3*d.* per lb., and that in the latter half of November a second, but less drastic, revision was made. Now bismuth metal has again been lowered by 3*d.* per lb., and all the salts have been correspondingly lowered by the manufacturers. People are asking where all this price-cutting will end. The full extent of the decline is best seen in a tabular arrangement of the price per lb. of bismuth-metal, and of subnitrate of bismuth, its principal pharmaceutical salt, thus:—

	Before June 1, 1894	June to Nov., 1894	Nov. 1894. to June, 1895	June 29, 1895
	<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>
Bismuth-metal .. ..	7 6	4 3	3 9	3 6
Subnitrate (B.P.) .. ..	7 3	5 0	4 7	4 3

The last drop, like its predecessors, is due to the continued importation of bismuth ore outside the control of the Bolivian Syndicate, which is apparently powerless to re-establish its grasp of the world's market. Australia and South America continue to send over free-lance consignments, and quite recently a considerable quantity of "bismuth ore" was received in London from Hong-Kong. The "outsiders" have been underselling the conventionists steadily, especially on the Continent, and, as a result of this, certain manufacturers of bismuth salts have been in a position to "cut" the official price-list of the convention to the extent of 2*d.* to 3*d.* per lb. on the chief salts. There is but one possible cure for a state of things of this kind, and that is a policy of "thorough."

Such a policy has been followed, on all critical occasions, by the iodine syndicate, and thanks to it that organisation remains intact until this day, although notoriously one of the worst of whitened sepulchres in the whole world of syndicates. It does not seem that the bismuth people have

been quite as radical in their methods as occasion demanded. When, last June, they reduced their quotations by about 45 per cent., they evidently underrated the pertinacity of their opponents by assuming that that reduction would be sufficient to drive the outsiders from the field. Instead of doing so, the non-conventionised mine-owners have become more determined than ever, and there are now probably few consumers who believe that the reduction just announced will be the last. We understand that the offending "outsiders" are acting in London through the same firm of brokers who held the outside bismuth that disturbed the market a year ago, though we cannot say whether they are the same people.

After the first great drop, in June, 1894, a South American gentleman, resident in London, who has considerable interests in the syndicated Bolivian mines, left for Bolivia in order, it is thought, to strengthen the hands of the syndicate in that country. He has lately returned, but, judging from what has just happened, his journey has not been a very successful one.

### SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.

The General Election at Leeds will so seriously interfere with the meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry on July 17, 18, and 19 that the committee have decided to postpone it until July 31 and August 1 and 2.

### BOOTS' CASHIERS.

The Nottingham *Argus* of June 29 contains an article commenting severely on the salaries which, it states, are paid by Boots (Limited) to their lady-cashiers. One, 17 or 18 years of age (the *Argus* states), who was engaged some seven months ago on the strength of her ability and proficiency to occupy the most prominent glass case, and who occupies the receipt of custom from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. daily, with the exception of Thursday afternoon, and from 8.30 A.M. to 10 P.M. on Saturday, taking in the course of a week some hundreds of pounds, is paid 4*s.* per week. Out of this, the *Argus* is informed, she has to find herself a black stuff uniform. Another young lady, who has been about two years with the firm, and is now 18 or 19 years of age, gets 5*s.* per week, and on application last Christmas for an advance she was coldly and sternly refused. A young man gets the exceptionally large sum of 6*s.*, and is, in consequence of the unusually high weekly rate, bound down not to mention it; whilst another youth receives 5*s.* for the same kind of duties at a branch establishment. In reply to our inquiry, the Secretary of the company informs us that the firm are replying to the Nottingham *Argus*, who have been mis-informed. "The statements," says the Secretary, "are not true, and we consider, after this explanation, you should not reproduce them." We think, however, that as the allegations have been made in a respectable paper with an evident sense of responsibility, we are justified in reproducing them, though we shall of course make it our business also to reproduce Messrs. Boots' answer.

### METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons which has been considering whether any and what changes in the present system of weights and measures should be adopted has come to a very definite though not quite unanimous, opinion in favour of the legislation and enforcement of the metric system in this country. A report declaring that the evidence had shown our present system to be complicated and unsatisfactory, that our foreign trade is seriously handicapped in every branch, and that our home trade would be benefited by more simple and uniform standards was drafted by the Chairman. The statement appears in the Committee's report



that "the Federal Government [of the United States] has this year passed an Act rendering the metrical system compulsory for pharmaceutical purposes."

In conclusion the Committee recommended—

(a) That the metrical system of weights and measures be at once legalised for all purposes.

(b) That after a lapse of two years the metrical system be rendered compulsory by Act of Parliament.

(c) That the metrical system of weights and measures be taught in all public elementary schools as a necessary and integral part of arithmetic, and that decimals be introduced at an earlier period of the school curriculum than is the case at present.

Mr. James Stevenson drew up a diametrically opposite report, deprecating any change, but he found himself in a minority of one. Four members of the Committee (Mr. Crombie, Sir A. Rollit, Mr. Stevenson, and Mr. Webster) voted in favour of an amendment postponing the compulsory establishment of the metric system until January 1, 1900 (probably under the mistaken supposition that that day would commence a new century), but by a majority the two years fixed by Sir H. Roscoe was allowed to stand.

#### "THEY NEVER WILL BE MISSED."

The "Official Customs Bill of Entry of London" of June 18 contained the following mysterious announcement:—"Dordt (Holland), 2,500l. mineral-water bottles, per *Carisbrooke Castle*." As no mineral-water or mineral-water bottles in anything like the quantity implied by the declared value of the above-mentioned shipment has ever been exported before from England to Holland, the announcement naturally created much interest among mineral-water dealers. Upon inquiry it was found that the shipment had consisted of no fewer than 146,000 full bottles of Royal German seltzer-water, forming part of a consignment brought over from Germany last year in the hope of selling it upon the British market. That hope having proved delusive, the owners decided to send the lot back to Germany, and we understand that the *Corinthian*, which is about to sail this week, will take a second consignment. Not unnaturally the "New Departure" in the mineral-water trade is viewed with scarcely concealed satisfaction by those mineral-water importers whose brands are appreciated in Britain. These gentlemen complain that for a long time desperate attempts have been made to gain a footing in this country for new brands, in spite of the notorious fact that every inch of ground was covered by the existing importers, and they rejoice that one of the would-be competitors at least has had nothing for his trouble but the expense of bringing a few shiploads of bottles back along the Rhine.

### An Inquiry into the Nature of the Vesicating Constituent of Croton Oil.\*

By WYNDHAM R. DUNSTAN, M.A., F.R.S., Sec.C.S., and Miss L. E. BOOLE, F.I.C., Lecturer on Chemistry in the London School of Medicine for Women.

THE vesicating constituent, or more strictly, the pustule-producing constituent of croton oil, has been the subject of investigation by numerous chemists and pharmacologists during the past forty years. According to the researches of Buchheim, and more recently of Kobert and Hirscheydt, the vesicating action is due to an acid closely allied to oleic acid, which has been given the name of crotonoleic acid. This substance is now prepared on a large scale in Germany for medical use, being extracted from

croton oil by the method devised by Kobert and Hirscheydt. This consists in saponifying with barium hydroxide that part of croton oil which readily dissolves in strong alcohol. The resulting barium salts are washed with water, then dried, and repeatedly extracted with ether, which dissolves the barium salts of oleic and crotonoleic acids. These salts are separated by means of ether, which dissolves only the barium crotonoleate, and this, when decomposed with dilute sulphuric acid and extracted with ether, furnishes the crotonoleic acid as a viscid oil.

Since very little is known about this acid, even its composition being undetermined, the authors prepared it with the object of studying its properties, and, if possible, of determining the constitution, since no fatty acid of known constitution exhibits the property of vesicating. Starting with the crotonoleic acid prepared as described above, the lead salt was obtained and submitted to a process of fractional precipitation by adding successive quantities of water to its solution in alcohol. By this means crotonoleic acid was proved to be a mixture composed for the most part of inactive oily acids, the lead salts of which are precipitated first, whilst the true vesicating constituent (or its lead salt) is principally contained in the last fractions, and represents but a small proportion of the original material. It was observed that the conversion of the crotonoleic acid into a lead salt did appreciably affect its vesicating power.

The supposed active constituent of croton oil, crotonoleic acid, having thus been shown to be a mixture, the authors proceeded to attempt to isolate the vesicating constituent from croton oil direct.

By saponifying that part of croton oil which is soluble in strong alcohol with a mixture of lead oxide and water, and repeatedly fractionating an alcoholic solution of the lead salts with water, the later fractions, which possessed the greatest vesicating power, ultimately furnished, when submitted to a series of fractionations, a resinous substance having extraordinary power as a vesicant. This substance could not be further resolved by repeating the process of fractional precipitation of the alcoholic solution with water. The same substance was isolated from the so-called "crotonoleic acid," and the authors propose to name it "croton-resin." To its presence the vesicating property of croton oil is due. The composition of croton-resin is expressed by the empirical formula  $C_{13}H_{18}O_4$ . So far all attempts to crystallise it, or to obtain crystalline derivatives from it, have been unsuccessful. It is a hard, pale yellow, brittle resin, nearly insoluble in water, light petroleum, and benzene, but readily dissolved by alcohol, ether, and chloroform. When heated it gradually softens, and is quite fluid at  $90^{\circ}C$ . Croton-resin has neither basic nor acidic properties; it may be boiled with a mixture of lead oxide and water without being appreciably affected. Ebullition with aqueous potash or soda gradually decomposes it, destroying its vesicating power. The products of this action are several acids, some of which are members of the acetic series. By oxidation of the resin with nitric acid a mixture of acids is obtained. The constitution of croton-resin is, therefore, complicated, and its molecular formula would appear to be at least  $(C_{13}H_{18}O_4)_2$  or  $C_{26}H_{36}O_8$ . Since it is not saponified by a mixture of lead oxide and water, and as no glycerol could be detected among the products of its decomposition by alkalis, it is not a glyceride, and as it does not react with hydroxylamine or phenylhydrazine or sodium bisulphite, it is probably neither a ketone nor an aldehyde. The evidence so far obtained points to the conclusion that the constitution of the vesicating constituent of croton oil may be that of a lactose or anhydride of complicated structure.

\* Abstract of a communication to the Royal Society.



## Marriages.

**COTES—FEARNSIDE**—At St. Paul's Church, Todmorden, on June 18, Mr. Thomas Henry Cotes, chemist, Sheffield, to Ellen, the only daughter of Mr. Supt. Fearnside, of Todmorden, and formerly of Pontefract.

**HENDER—PARSON**—On July 1, at St. Jude's Church, by the Rev. Preb. Howard, M.A., assisted by the Rev. T. Collett, B.A., Walter Coad Hender, Tothill Pharmacy, to Ada Ellen Parson, youngest daughter of J. Walter Parson, Brunswick House, St. John's, Plymouth.

## Deaths.

**BOWERS**—June 29, at Bray, William Henry Bowers, M.P.S.I., proprietor of the Medical Hall, Great Brunswick Street, Dublin. Aged 34 years.

**SCHIEFFELIN**—Mr. William Henry Schieffelin, senior partner in the drug-firm of W. H. Schieffelin & Co., of New York, the announcement of whose death was cabled by our American correspondent last week, was a native of New York, where he was born in 1836. Although educated especially with a view of succeeding his father in what was then already an old-established drug-business, Mr. Schieffelin had some exciting adventures in less peaceful walks of life before definitely entering upon the paternal calling. In 1860 he became the leader of an exploration-party which set out to prospect the then really Wild West, in the region where the States of Montana, Dakota, and Idaho have since been carved out. The Schieffelin party crossed the



Rockies from Montana in the track pioneered by the famous Lewis and Clark expedition some eighteen years earlier, and was captured by the Crow Indians, at whose hands they narrowly escaped death. Upon Mr. Schieffelin's return to New York he became actively connected with the business, but had scarcely settled down when the War of Secession broke out. Schieffelin joined the ranks on the Northern side in the Seventh Regiment of New York, of which he had been a member for some time. After a while he was appointed Major of the First New York Mounted Rifles, and in that capacity saw a good deal of fighting at the siege of Suffolk, Virginia. In 1863, upon his return from the war, Mr. Schieffelin married Miss Mary Jay, a descendant of the well-known Chief Justice John Jay, and thenceforth devoted himself to the active guidance of that business of which he soon became the principal partner. Mr. Schieffelin took an active interest in religious and political affairs, and was a prominent sportsman and cattle-breeder. His wife survives him, as well as one daughter, Eleanor, and a son, William Jay Schieffelin, who has been a member of the firm for some time.

## Foreign and Colonial News.

**HUNGARIAN CHAMOMILES**—The harvest of chamomiles (*Flor. chamomilla vulg.*) in Hungary is said to be the largest that has ever been gathered in that country.

**THE GERMAN GELATINE-WORKS** in Höchst-on-Main, near Frankfurt and Schweinfurth, have made a profit on their working in 1894 of 239,916m., out of which the shareholders will receive a dividend of 16 per cent.

**ALUM DEPOSITS IN NEW MEXICO**—A large deposit of alum has been opened on the Gila River, New Mexico, U.S.A. It is reported to be of great commercial value, and is now being worked with proper railway facilities. These alum beds, along with those of gypsum and soda known to exist in the State, are probably destined to become the most productive properties in New Mexico.

**BAD DRUGS IN AMERICA**—Things do not seem to be healthy in the American drug-trade, so far as supplies are concerned. Professor Willis G. Tucker, of Albany, recently reported that the New York Health Board, founded in 1880, has made it a business to collect specimens of drugs sold in various parts of the State, and subject them to chemical analysis. Professor Tucker said that he had personally tested over 10 000 specimens of drugs in this way, and out of 8,000 samples recently tested 47 per cent. were found of good quality, while the remainder were fair, inferior, of excessive strength, or not as called for. This does not apply to all drugs, but to those that are frequently adulterated.

**THE NEW WOMAN IN THE WILD WEST**—A lady traveller (the *New York Shipping List*, from which we take the paragraph, calls her a "woman drummer") for a St. Louis vinegar-manufacture is touring the North-western States on a bicycle, and in "stunning Parisian bloomers." She started from St. Louis last January, and reached Seattle (Washington) early in June. She sends postcards ahead of her to the grocers, saying she will "wheel into town about next week," and asking them to save their orders for her. She is creating a sensation, and selling lots of vinegar. "Sweetest nut hath sourest rind," as Shakespeare said. The sweeter the "Parisian bloomers," the greater the sales of vinegar to the love-distracted grocers of Seattle.

**GERMAN COLONIAL MEDICAL LABORATORIES**—The German Imperial Government will introduce a Bill before the Reichstag to establish medical laboratories in the German colonies. There is already one such laboratory in Cameroon, West Africa, under the direction of Dr. Plehn, who has made several valuable researches, especially on the etiology of blackwater fever. This laboratory is Dr. Plehn's private property, but he receives a subsidy from the Colonial Government. If the Bill is passed, similar laboratories will be established in all the other German colonies, chiefly for the purpose of investigating tropical diseases and tropical hygiene. The conditions of European acclimatisation in the different colonies will also be carefully examined. In addition, a central institute for colonial medicine will be established in Berlin, which will receive communications from the laboratories, and will collect and publish the results of their investigations.

**PROPOSED OFFICIAL MEDICAL TARIFF IN CAPE COLONY**—There is a Bill before the Legislative Council of Cape Colony to amend the Medical and Pharmacy Act of 1891, by establishing a tariff of fees for medical practitioners. No practitioner will be entitled to recover any charges exceeding those in the tariff, "save in pursuance of any special agreement between the parties." The following is the proposed tariff:—

	£	s.	d.
Examination of any person, and certificate .. ..	1	1	0
Every visit within the limits of any town or village—			
By day .. .. .	0	5	0
By night .. .. .	0	10	0
Every visit outside such limits, besides the charges allowed by the tariff—			
If travelling at own cost, per hour .. .. .	0	10	0
If travelling at cost of patient, per hour .. .. .	0	7	6
Any confinement .. .. .	3	0	0
Any certificate of cause of death not involving <i>post-mortem</i> ..	0	10	0
Any surgical operation involving the loss of any limb ..	10	0	0
Any ordinary surgical operation .. .. .	0	10	0



## Bleasdale (Limited).

AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY DRUG-HOUSE, WHICH AT THE CLOSE OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY RECEIVES A FRESH BAPTISM OF ENTERPRISE, BECOMES INCORPORATED AND ESSENTIALLY CO-OPERATIVE IN PRINCIPLE.

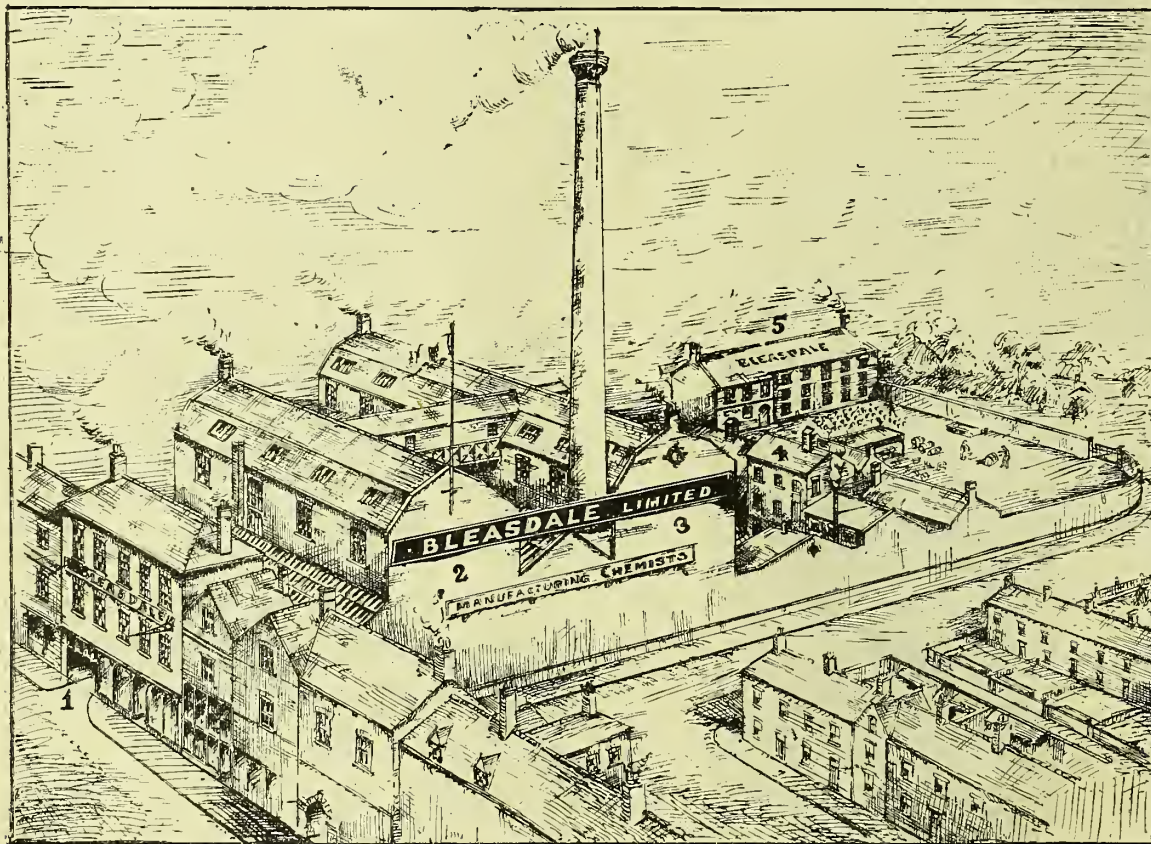
"YES; I think it was this house that Scott had in his mind when he made puir Jeannie Deans write from this town of York to her dominie sweetheart about there being mair medicines in't than wad cure a' Scotland."

The voice came to me through a cloud of cigarette smoke, and there was a Scotch ring about its tones, for Mr. George

afterwards Lord Mayor. From him it passed to James Moore Butterfield, who was joined in 1838 by Joseph Clarke, and they traded under their names until Mr. Butterfield died. Then William Bleasdale took Mr. Butterfield's share, and the firm became Clarke & Bleasdale. That was in the fifties. Mr. W. H. Bell, who is still alive, was admitted a partner in 1860, and his name was added to the firm-name; then a fourth name was added when Mr. Richard B. Tollinton became a partner. He and Mr. Clarke died, and Mr. Bell retired. So Mr. Bleasdale became sole partner, and he condensed the firm-name to W. Bleasdale & Co."

"And the further concentration?"

"To Bleasdale (Limited). Well, after Mr. Bleasdale's death in 1888, the business was carried on under trust, and I



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE WORKS.

1. Entrance from Colliergate. 2. Warehouses. 3. Engine-house, grinding rooms, and laboratories. 4. Extension of laboratories.
5. Tincture laboratories and women's workrooms.

Grierson was the speaker, and he hails from Edinburgh. We were sitting in a quaint old garden, from which one saw the needles of York Minster towers and as much of the city as brought to mind that once upon a time it was the capital of a kingdom. The present time was a typical summer afternoon, and, having spent the better part of the day in inspecting the warerooms, laboratories, and packing-floors of this old drug-house, I was glad of the quiet and pure air of the garden wherein to chat while I smoked a pipe. Interviewing for once became idyllic, and doubtless Mr. Grierson unbosomed himself more freely than he might have done in the counting-house.

"John Dales started the business in 1780, and it was wholesale then. Dales was an Alderman of the city, and

was appointed general manager in 1891. Yes, business part as well as the manufacturing. Of course, my experience with Gardner & Ainslie, of Edinburgh, and Newsholme, of Sheffield, came in well there; but please don't ask about me, Bleasdale is my theme. The death of young Bleasdale, in 1893, made it necessary to wind up his father's estate, so the travellers, heads of departments, and myself thought we could run it on the old lines if we could get some of the customers to join us. And they did. Mr. Wilson, of Harrogate, and Mr. Sharp, of Musselburgh, agreed to join the directorate. So here we are, virtually co-operative, for every man in the place who has a 5*l*. note to spare is a shareholder. Our first dividend of 6½ per cent. has brought in many more of our customers, and yet we work on sound commer-



cial lines, meeting competition like an ordinary firm, and always pushing—especially to our shareholders.”

“A long and varied history. Does it not strike you as being very like your premises? You seem to have added a new building every time you took a new partner.”

“It's not unlike that; but some of the additions are quite recent. Since we were incorporated that building——”

But we need not go further with the interview, as already there is enough of it to introduce the more intricate, but, we hope, interesting, details of our representative's report.

#### THE PREMISES.

The entrance from Colliergate to the Bleasdale warehouses reminds one of those which still exist in a few of the oldest-

ness characteristics, because certain old-fashioned departments linger in rejuvenescence beside modern developments. Viewing the ground-floor of the warehouse from the managing-director's office one sees that it is divided into drys and patents, which divide the floor between them, and threaten to raise the roof, so cramped are the departments for room; while an annexe at the back is devoted to wets. All this looks commonplace, just what one sees in a busy provincial drug-house—every man working in his shirt-sleeves to get his orders put up and passed on to the labeller and checker, and accumulating groups of goods gathering in trays for the packers. A word of protest comes from our representative when he gets to the tincture department and finds these delicate galenicals stored in barrels. “Ah! these are a relic of the good old days,” says Mr. Grierson. “They are stone-lined. Unique I should think. We do



VIEW IN THE STEAM LABORATORY.

established metropolitan wholesale drug-houses—an arch through the front building, leading into a courtyard sacred to carriers' carts, empties, and straw. To the side, on the right, managerial and clerical offices and warerooms; to the left, cool cellars, for ethereal and spirituous liquids, essential oils, and an oil-yard. A glimpse through a gateway at the back of the court shows clouds of steam, and there come faint creaks, growlings, and puffings which denote that there is machinery in that region. Further, neither eye nor ear can carry us from the Colliergate entrance.

A walk through a wholesale drug-warehouse is always instructive. No two are absolutely alike, and each one has its peculiarities. Bleasdale's has structurally more than its share in the latter score, and a decided excess in regard to busi-

#### A BIG TINCTURE TRADE.

Why, we have quoted them since Dales' time; I have an 1839 list which I will show you." This our representative afterwards got a loan of, and we may quote some of the items, partly that those who read may compare the prices of tinctures in those cheap-spirit days with what they are now, when the spirit rather than the drugs represents the bulk of the cost, and partly because it is generally alleged that our forefathers in pharmacy did not buy tinctures. The list is Butterfield & Clarke's; a tiny 28 pp. small 32mo. booklet, in which the prices are written in. Only a few of the tinctures are priced, apparently those most wanted fifty years ago, such as the following:—



	per lb.		per lb.
Tr. benz. co. ..	3s. 4d.	Tr. hyoseyam. ..	2s. 6d.-2s. 0d.
" camph. co. ..	2s. 0d.	" lavand. co. ..	2s. 0d.
" card. co. ..	2s. 0d.	" myrrhæ ..	3s. 4d.
" castor. ..	5s. 0d.	" opii ..	3s. 4d.
" cinchon. co. ..	2s. 0d.	" rhei co. ..	2s. 4d.
" digital. ..	2s. 6d.	" sennæ co. ..	2s. 4d.
" helleb. nig. ..	2s. 6d.	" zingib. ..	3s. 4d.

Sweet spirit of nitre and spt. ammon. aromat. are quoted at 2s. 8d. per lb. Many of the quotations are in cypher, from which we may judge that this price-list was used by a traveller or for office purposes.

#### A POINT.

We have said that the warehouse arrangements in Bleasdale's are what is generally seen in provincial drug-warehouses, but there is one feature which strikes us as unusual and excellent—viz., that all the bottled goods, "drys" and pills as well as "wets," are passed along to a counter under the charge of the warehouse-manager, where they are examined, capped, and labelled. After this process they are sorted out into adjustable compartments on the packing-counters, each compartment representing a customer. When an order is completed in this way the assistant who got it together dictates to the warehouse manager, who marks off as he goes on the articles, weights, and value of packages. The system as carried out has other advantages; but it is not possible in viewing the working of such a business as this to examine the details closely, especially as the pharmaceutical-journalist's aim is to judge general efficiency rather than perfection of parts. Passing from this department across the yard the

#### OIL-STORES

are reached. Here, again, traces of evolution are everywhere. Old and well-nigh-forgotten styles of containers stand close to the modern ones which have been put in place during the last decade, and there is no room for descriptive enthusiasm; chiefly huge tanks of oils of all kinds, except cod-liver, which is allowed to remain in its original barrels, but that as short a time as possible, for, as will afterwards be seen, the tin-linings are put to excellent use. In front of this extensive oil-store are a series of cellars used for acids, essential oils, volatile liquids, and other goods which should be kept cool. We found, for example, a stack of barrels of Dantzic black beer, which the firm regularly import, and for which there is now a steady sale in the North. Beside these cellars is a bottle warehouse.

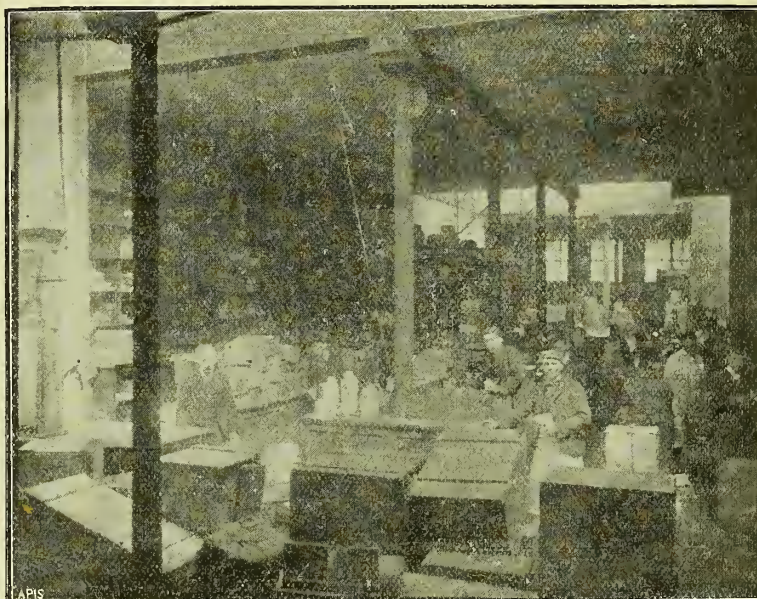
#### GLASSWARE

is one of Bleasdale's strong points, and although they are in the very heart of the bottle-making industry they import white-glass goods from abroad. "Why?" asked our representative. "Because they are cheaper" was the reply. "As good?" "Better." We have no pleasure in reproducing this curt conversation, but it is evident that somebody requires to be wakened up. This applies to other glassware matters. For example, our representative discovered during his visit that this wholesale drug-house do their own stoppering, and have quite a big business in the graduation of measures. It seemed such a unique thing to find a glass-grinder at work in a wholesale drug-house that our representative took a photograph of the grinder, which, however, met with a misfortune. Of course, there is no reason why every wholesale druggist should not employ a glass-grinder; the art of stoppering is simple, and the graduation of glass measures, if more difficult and exacting, requires care, but the local weights and measures inspector ensures that the workmen turn out correct measures. It is, however, natural for the outsider to suppose that glassware manufacturers

would be able to do the work so well and at such rates that it would not be worth the while of wholesale druggists to meddle with it. However, here is an example to the contrary, and although Bleasdale is accused of "cutting" on glass measures, Mr. Grierson, while not denying the soft impeachment, whispers that if everything paid as well his dividend might be a multiple of 6½ per cent. Turning now to the

#### DRUG STORE-ROOMS,

which occupy the first floor of the front premises and one above it, we take a rapid walk round, and find the usual huge



A BIT OF THE WAREHOUSE FLOOR ("DRYS").

collection of drugs in original packages, with barrels and bins of chemicals and dry colours, besides some exceptional items. For example, a large section of one floor was covered with Russian liquorice in the process of sorting, preparatory to grinding. They make four sorts of it, and a roller-mill down below is used daily all the year round for liquorice-grinding. At another corner is a rhubarb-trimming machine—"A dying fashion," says Mr. Grierson with a sigh, and there was another sigh when he kicked his last bale of insect-flowers, for he imports direct, and he was afraid that



JOHN HERBERT WILSON, J.P., PH.C.,

would not last ten days before the ship came home. By the way, there is very little land carriage to York; most goods are taken by ship to Hull, thence by river steamer to York. Direct

of Wilson & Son, Harrogate, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Bleasdale (Limited), and Director of "Camwal."

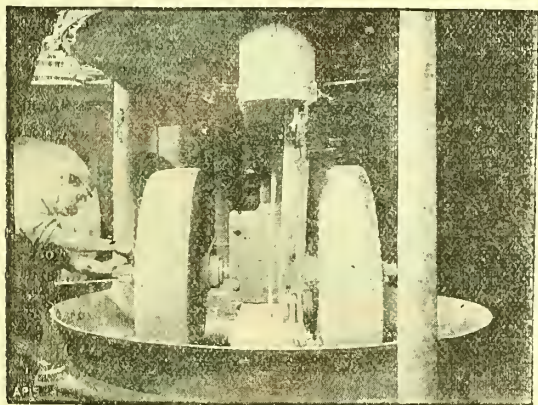


imports of Sicilian brimstone are another feature of Bleasdale's business, but this is a small thing with them compared to insect flowers, which are ground and packed as the powder comes from the mill, so that the volatile principle in which the insecticidal property resides is retained unimpaired. The firm draw some of their drug supplies from the Yorkshire district—for example, poppies and pansies. English poppies are the best, and there is room for more of them. The stock had run down when our representative called, and the Belgian fruit had taken their place. The difference between the two is marked, for the Yorkshire poppy is almost perfectly spherical, while the Belgian is flattened—a form that is rarely, if ever, seen in Yorkshire. It appears, too, that the latter are more efficacious, probably because they are better harvested. It is the same reason that has given Bleasdale (Limited) their sudden reputation for violet-flowers, and when we say that they supply many of the wholesale druggists in the country with liquor violet, an idea may be formed of the importance of this small branch of their business.

As we pass from the drug store-rooms we tap the sundries department, where we find Mr. Wilson, the chairman of the Board of Directors, consulting with Mr. Humphreys, the secretary, regarding a purchase of brushes, and the thought naturally comes to the surface, "How good a thing to have an energetic retailer to assist in a wholesale business," which is one of the blessings of incorporation. We visit a modest sundries showroom, and then pass on to the

#### MANUFACTURING SECTION.

This is more extensive than we gave the firm credit for. Our representative inspected eight laboratories, besides various rooms for specific purposes and the grinding-rooms. The last-mentioned are situated close to the engine and boiler house, so that the waste heat is utilised for drying roots, &c., a process, which in some cases, has to be repeated after the drugs are crushed. The grinding-machinery consists of several stone mills, a series of very old mortars with giant pounding pestles worked by machinery, and (the latest addition) a disintegrator, which is chiefly intended for preparing drugs for the liquids laboratory. The various mills are of course supplemented by mechanical sieves of the type which

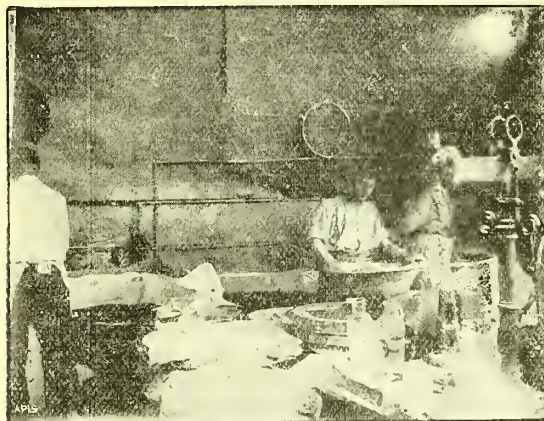


ONE OF SEVERAL STONE MILLS USED FOR GRINDING DRUGS

the late Professor Redwood loved so well. Indeed, for all we know, they may have been working when he was in Bell's, for they are very old. They made things so well in those days that there is no wearing of them out.

On the way to the pan-room we pass a small laboratory which has just come into operation. It is here that the disintegrator works, and in the next room is compressed-tablet machinery, the business of the latter being still a growing one, thanks to competition and public appreciation. Then the liquids laboratory, one of the largest rooms of the premises, and fitted from end to end with steam pans, infusers, percolators, and other apparatus used in the preparation of liquid galenicals. On one wall is a series of stone stills for sweet nitre, and there are others for aromatic ammonia and distilled spirits generally. The laboratory is under the immediate charge of Mr. Melmore, whose predecessor is

now a partner in one of the historic London houses. Mr. Grierson takes general supervision, and he has devised many of the special processes employed, for it is this department which gives most scope for his Edinburgh and Sheffield training. One result of this is that in addition to official galenicals the firm manufacture a large number of special preparations, and keep pace with therapeutic and pharmaceutical progress. For example, a series of simple and compound liquors of the digestive ferments, having high proteolytic power combined with permanency and elegance, are made by the firm. One of their latest products is a liquor cannab. ind., based upon the observation of Dr. Cowan Lees that an aqueous preparation of this drug possesses many advantages over the ordinary alcoholic preparations, tincture and extract. His experience is that the liquor gives all the beneficial effects without the drawbacks of the tincture, avoiding those extreme exhilarating conditions bordering on intoxication which are sometimes met with even when using a medium dose of the latter. It is particularly useful in phthisis pulmonalis and indigestion with constipation.



A CORNER OF THE GRANULATING LABORATORY.

Behind the liquids laboratory is one almost of equal size called the granulating-room, which absorbs practically all the sugar ground on the first floor of the grinding-house. It is difficult to realise until one sees a granulating-room working at full speed from 7 A.M. till 10 P.M. how popular a thing citrate of magnesia is. This is the condition of things at Bleasdale's during this hot weather. The process is simple—viz., heating the ingredients carefully in shallow steam-pans, and rubbing the pasty mass which is formed through sieves upon felt blankets, and drying by steam-heat. As quickly as it is made the citrate is packed, and again we get an idea of the consumption of the article from Mr. Grierson's statement that he sends it out mostly in 120-lb. drums, which are the tin-linings of cod-liver oil casks, cleaned to perfect sweetness, and converted into screw-top drums. Some retailers are able to place standing orders for scores of these drumfuls in the course of the season. Other granular and saline preparations are not neglected, and two or three small steam-pans are reserved for these.

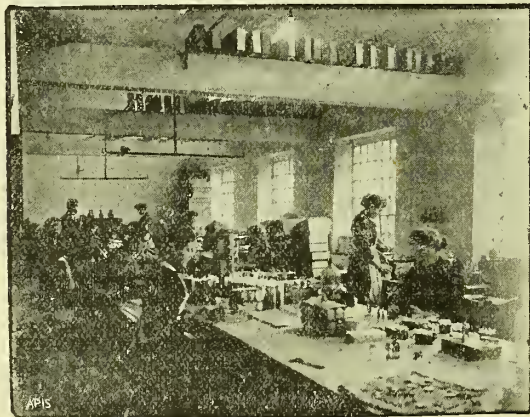
The rest of the manufacturing departments we must hasten over, interesting though they are. In succession an experimental laboratory, one for perfume-compounding—which is a hobby of the managing director's, as his firm's exquisite perfumes testify—bougie and suppository room, and a large pill manufacturing and coating department were in turn inspected, the last-mentioned again surprising our representative. In passing from it to the outer air we had to go through a room in which there was a benchful of porous stones for drying prepared chalk. Then to the tincture laboratory, which is in a separate building in a courtyard behind. The upper floors of this building are reserved for the women employed on

#### PUT-UP GOODS.

Their products from all the laboratories filter, for medicinal specialities for dispensing purposes as well as counter-



specialities are put up ready for sale. Manufacturing, also, to some extent is carried on—for example, in one quiet corner of the larger packing-room our representative found a few girls busy on seidlitz powders, each powder being weighed. Others were weighing and folding teething-powders, which, with similar powders, keep these girls working all the year round. The firm consider the counter-speciality business to be one of the safety-rafts of the wholesale drug-trade, as well as of the retail. The new order of things inaugurated by "cutting" has made it imperative upon the retailer in manufacturing-towns to increase his sales, and as it is difficult to make people swallow more medicine than they want, the next resource to that is to get them to buy things which they think they need or like. Hence Bleasdale's people have started a whole series of such goods for the chemist—"His Own" is the trade-mark of the series—and with every invoice they call upon the customer in such terms as these:—"Every chemist should sell 'His Own' brown boot polish, made and put up for him in 3-oz. stone bottles, each in cartoon, at 3s 6d. dozen, by Bleasdale (Limited), York." This applies to dozens of things—petroleum jelly, camphor-ice, essence of herbs, Danish butter-colouring, essence of rennet, sulphur-tablets, cod-liver oil emulsion, furniture-cream, malt and oil, lemon-squash, and gold-paint are a few that we have had the opportunity of examining, and both in regard to the quality of the materials and style of packing they are a



A GLIMPSE INTO A WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT.

credit to the makers. The portion of the premises in which these goods are packed is isolated, in accordance with the Factory Act regulations applicable to female workers, and the condition of things in regard to cleanliness, order, and sanitary arrangements is excellent. Like all other parts of the business this one is closely supervised by the managing director, who has brought much ingenuity to bear upon its development. His latest production is an infants' food—the "Busy Mother"—which bears upon the label a portrait of the first child fed on the food, which also, by the way, is "his own," a baby of a year old, who might pass for double that age if one judged from plumpness and intelligence.

One other department remains to be described before we close this hurried record—viz., that wherein

#### STICKY FLY-PAPERS

are made. This is an extension of the women's packing department, but quite isolated from it. Here as many as thirty women are employed during the summer in spreading and folding the fly-papers. The basis of these is the now famous Yorkshire hirdlime, a composition into which linseed oil and resin largely enter. But before this is fitted for making fly-papers certain flavouring and colouring matters must be added to it; this done, the composition is maintained at such a temperature that it can be spread over the paper with facility. By facility we mean that which a trained hand acquires, for the women who do this work take some time to learn. One peculiarity of Bleasdale's "Spider" fly-paper

is its triangular shape. This is not mere fancy, but the result of experience, and while it gives distinction to this particular make it secures evenness of the composition. It is scarcely necessary to explain that the women who spread the composition do not fold the papers, that being done by helpers. We recently referred to the peculiarities of the sticky fly-paper trade, and spoke of the necessity for the retailer having a constant fresh supply. It is upon this principle that Bleasdale (Limited) work. Big stocks they do not carry—indeed, the papers a retailer gets are often made the same day they are sent off, and all are encouraged to order just enough to keep them going until the next ordering day, the encouragement being a discount at the end of the season upon the total quantity purchased. This amounts to from 3d. per gross on 10 gross to 1s 6d. per gross on 1,000 gross, and the buyer may have his own name on the papers if he wishes it.

Much more might be said regarding this interesting business. As an example of the influences of new methods in the retail trade upon the character of the wholesale it is not unique; but the firm's connection is centred in that part of England which has suffered most keenly from the cutter, and to go with the times and simultaneously retain the characteristics of an old-fashioned drug-house required both boldness of enterprise and skill in manufacturing. The prosperity of the firm is the best evidence that they have solved the problem, as it also demonstrates that the disadvantages of the company-system may be overcome by the individuality of the leaders of a company.

### The Drug-store Man.

(WITH APOLOGIES TO MR. W. S. GILBERT.)

"Oh, I am a cook and a draper bold,  
And the boss of a pharmacee,  
And a grocer bright and a cunning wight  
To measure a pound of tea."

"Oh, composite man, it is little I know  
Of the manners of merchantree;  
But I'll eat my hand if I understand  
How you contrive to be

"At once a cook and draper bold,  
And the boss of a pharmacee,  
And a grocer bright and a cunning wight  
To measure a pound of tea."

Then he worked his eye and he jerked his thumb  
Till I really felt afraid;  
And I couldn't help fearing the man must be sneering  
Until he coolly said—

"I started life as a draper bold  
(And there's little in that"),  
said he;

"For after a while I was fain to file  
A petition in bankruptee.

"And after that, as a grocer bright,  
I sought the world to woo;  
And then for a year I dealt in beer,  
And in wine and whisky, too.

"And then I started a baker's shop,  
With muffins and buns galore;  
But there with beak I had to speak  
On a question of 'averdrepore.'

"I loved that beak as a brother, I did;  
And the beak, he worshipped me;  
But he'd see me fried e'er I went outside  
Under ten-quid fine, you see!

"So then I worked for a while the 'mill,'  
A device some bakers learn,  
Where a scale goes wrong, and a sordid throng  
For a full-weight quartern yearn.

"And after that as an oilman I  
In pursuit of fortune ran,  
Till I gained in tone and was widely known  
As 'Italian warehouseman.'

"And then I started a monster shop  
With varied kinds of wares—  
Cigars and tea, and some homiery,  
And foods and liquors rare.

"Thereto I added a counter, which  
Was famed for the sale of pig,  
For the butter bright, and the pastry light,  
And the German sausage big.

"And since a profit is said to lurk  
In the wares of pharmacee,  
A 'Minor' man for a trifle ran  
A department there for me.

"So I bought my drugs in the cheapest mart  
For poison, drug, or pill;  
They were bad at best, for my only test  
Was the cheapness of the bill.

"And I grew full fat, and a stove-pipe hat  
Was the only kind I wore,  
For my source of pelf, as you see yourself  
Is to be (as I said before)

"At once a cook and a draper bold,  
And the boss of a pharmacee,  
And a grocer bright and a cunning wight  
To measure a pound of tea."



## New Companies and Company News.

**WRIGLEY & Co. (LIMITED).**—Capital 1,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists, druggists, drysalers, oil and colourmen, patent medicine manufacturers, &c. The first subscribers are: Arthur Wrigley, 101 Queen Street, Morley, Yorks, chemist's assistant, 994 shares; Mrs. A. Wrigley, same address (1); G. Wrigley, New Road, Hebden Bridge, Yorks, gentleman (1); Mrs. G. Wrigley, same address (1); J. Redman, 2 Westfield Terrace, Chapel Allerton, Leeds, clothier (1); Mrs. J. Redman, same address (1); Fred Mallinson, Market Street, Heckmondwike, chemist (1). Registered without articles of association. The first subscriber is to be the managing director. Registered office, 101 Queen Street, Morley, Yorks.

**HARLEQUIN SOAP SYNDICATE (LIMITED).**—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of soap-makers, chemists, druggists, manufacturers of and dealers in chemical, medicinal, and toilet articles, grocers, wine-merchants, &c. The first subscribers (each of whom takes one share) are:—F. G. Bates, 55 and 56 Chancery Lane, W.C., agent; J. R. Brough, 29 Alexandra Villas, Finsbury Park, stationer; G. M. Barrow, 71 Marine Parade, Brighton, director of company; G. H. Leaf, Wallington, Surrey, gentleman; L. W. Hawkins, 48 Dafforne Road, Tooting, clerk; A. H. Deakin, 98 High Holborn, W.C., merchant; R. R. Saunders, 9 Lampton Road, Hounslow, accountant. The first directors (to number not more than six) are to be appointed by the subscribers. Qualification, one share. Remuneration, 5*l.* per cent. of the profits divisible.

**SURGEON-DENTISTS' ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).**—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To promote the adoption and practice of the best methods of English and foreign dentistry, to print and publish anything dealing with dentistry or of interest to dentists, and to assist dentists in every possible way. The subscribers (each with one share) are:—Miss M. Treasure and Mrs. E. J. Treasure, 19 King's Road, Chelsea; H. Fowler, Mirfield, Harrow, diamond cutter; M. H. Sykes, 41 Brewster Gardens, N., surgeon-dentist; A. B. Sloan, 6 Stanley Villas, Tottenham, traveller; W. R. Wheeler, 6 Glengall Road, Old Kent Road, S.E., bonnet manufacturer; H. Wingfield, 13 Waterloo Place, S.W., chartered accountant. The first directors (to number not less than two) are to be appointed by the subscribers; qualification, 50 shares; remuneration, 10*l.* each per annum. Registered office: 19 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.

**LEVINSTEIN (LIMITED).**—Capital 90,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by I. Levinstein and Company (Limited), at Manchester, to enter into several agreements for such acquisition, and to manufacture, import, sell and deal in chemicals, drugs, colours, dye-stuffs, pharmaceutical preparations, &c. The first subscribers are:—J. W. Radcliffe, Werneth Park, Oldham, merchant (100); H. T. Bottinger, 18 Britterstrasse, Elberfeld Germany, managing director of a company (100); J. B. Lonsdale, Egerton Lodge, Bury Old Road, Manchester, merchant (100); I. Levinstein, Hawkesmoor, Fallowfield, Manchester, managing director of a company (960); E. Partington, Easton Glossop, paper manufacturer (200); O. Isler, 35 and 37 Dickinson Street, Manchester, merchant (50); J. Burger, 1 Birch Avenue, Old Trafford, manufacturing chemist (100); W. Liebmann, A. Studer, 10 Marsden Street, Manchester, consulting chemists (30 each). The first directors (to number not less than three nor more than ten) are:—Joshua W. Radcliffe, Henry T. Bottinger, John B. Lonsdale, and Ivan Levinstein (managing director). Qualification, 1,000*l.* Remuneration, 150*l.* each per annum. Registered office, 21 Minshull Street, Manchester.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL HERBALISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN (LIMITED).**—No capital, but having a membership not exceeding 500, each of whom is liable for 5*l.* in the event of winding up. Objects:—To promote and

encourage, by the giving of prizes, &c., the study and knowledge of the vegetable kingdom in its application to public health, agriculture, and technical industry, to protect and support the character, status, and interests of medical herbalists, and to decide all questions of professional usage or courtesy among them. The first subscribers are:—A. R. Fox, 56 Snig Hill, Sheffield; Wm. Parker, 272 Fitzwilliam Street, Sheffield; Wm. H. Blunt, 70 Snow Hill, Birmingham; J. C. Stott, 132 Sheffield Road, Barnsley; J. Parkinson, 17 Lees Road, Oldham; S. Halliday, 22 Northgate, Cleckheaton; T. Ogden, 101 Westgate, Dawsbury; T. Tyldesley, 70 Broad Street, Parkgate; J. Simmons, 94 Shakespeare Street, Southport; all medical herbalists. The following gentlemen constitute the council of management:—Alfred A. Fox (President), Wm. Parker, Wm. H. Blunt, Wm. Suthers, and John Rayner (Vice-Presidents), Joe C. Stott (Hon. Secretary), Wm. H. Blunt (Hon. Treasurer), and Samuel Halliday, Thomas Ogden, Thomas Tyldesley, and James Parkinson (Councillors). Registered office, 182 Sheffield Road, Barnsley, Yorks.

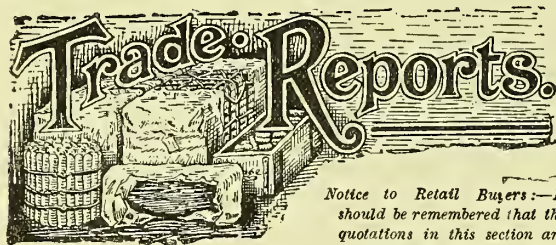
**WALKER, TURNER & Co (LIMITED).**—The members of this concern met on May 30 and June 17, and respectively passed and confirmed a resolution for the voluntary winding-up of the company, and for the appointment of Arthur E. Woodington as liquidator. The company was registered on November 7, 1894, with a capital of 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares, to acquire and carry on the business of anti-fouling boiler-fluid manufacturers, carried on by Frank Walker, A. Pashley Turner, and Arthur R. Hedley as "Walker, Turner, & Co.," at 12 and 14 Duke Street, Aldgate, E.C. According to the last return all the shares have been taken up, and 1,473 have been issued as fully paid, while the full amount has been called and paid on the remaining 527 shares.

**HICKS & Co. (LIMITED), MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS, CARDIFF.**—The directors of this company have issued their sixth annual report for the year ended March 31 last. It shows a net profit of 674*l.* 9*s.* 7½*d.*, making, with a balance brought forward from last year of 28*l.* 2*s.* 10½*d.*, a total disposable sum of 702*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* Of this the directors take 100*l.*, and the rest is appropriated to the payment of a dividend of 6 per cent. on the preference shares, and 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares. During the year the directors have purchased the retail business carried on for many years by Mr. Alderman Yorath, chemist, Canton, and have obtained a twenty-one years' lease of the premises on very favourable terms. The shop has been thoroughly re-fitted and re-stocked and a cellar made for storage. To enable the directors to do this, they became responsible for an overdraft at the bank, and to reduce this they now propose issuing 6-per-cent. non-cumulative preference shares, the present shareholders of the company to have priority of allotment.

**NORTHFLEET WHITE-LEAD COMPANY (LIMITED).**—The liquidators of this concern have called a final meeting of the members for July 25 at 6 Clement's Lane, E.C., when the accounts will be submitted. The company was registered on July 18, 1890, as "MacIvor's Patents (Limited)," with a capital of 250,000*l.*, in 2*l.* shares, to acquire and develop patents No. 10,426 of 1888 and No. 6,815 of 1889, granted to Ralph W. E. MacIvor and others, and to carry on the business of white-lead manufacturers, chemists, drysalers, oil and colourmen, &c. The name was changed in February, 1892. Registered office, Candor Works, Northfleet, Kent. Return made up to January 12, filed February 22, 1893, when 100,000 shares were taken up. Of these 33,333 were issued as fully paid, and the full amount was called on the rest, realising 123,363*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, and leaving 9,970*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* in arrears. The members resolved on voluntary liquidation in February and March, 1893, and a month later the liquidators gave their consent to the registration of "The Northfleet White-lead Works (Limited)."

**JUST THE THING.**—Miss Peach Blossom: "Do you keep sympathetic ink?" Druggist: "Certainly, miss. Going to write a love-letter?" Miss P.: "Oh, no, sir; a friend of mine has lost her mother, and I want to write a letter of condolence."





Notice to Retail Buyers:—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large

quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable even for manufacturing purposes.

It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., July 4

WE have but very few alterations to record in the markets since our last report. Stocktaking has to a considerable extent interfered with business, and the proximity of the General Election also impedes trade, particularly in the country districts. The general tendency of the markets, however, is good, and many of the export houses specially are very busy. The Bank rate remains 2 per cent., at which figure it has now stood for a very long time. The price of silver has also been steady, bar silver being quoted to-day at 30½d. per oz., the same as at the close of our last report. In fine chemicals the principal feature of the week has been a further decline in the price of bismuth and its preparations, upon which we comment in our editorial notes. Quinine is not quite so firm as it has been, although the position seems to be very sound. Refined camphor for prompt delivery has been reduced in price by the German makers, a move on their part which contrasts singularly with the increased firmness in the raw article. Salicylic acid has been further depressed by competition, and the same remark applies to acetanilid, which, however, is a comparatively small article. Citric and tartaric acids remain pretty firm, and cream of tartar shows some improvement. There has been no change in acetic, carbolic, or tannic acids; the price of gallic acid, however, has been somewhat reduced. Ether is higher on the Continent, and in consequence of that fact prices for sulphuric ether have been raised in some quarters. Caffeine shows no alteration, and is exceedingly scarce on the spot. Glycerine looks like moving upwards at last, but the heavy second-hand supplies prevent manufacturers from raising their quotations. Permanganate of potash has been in somewhat better demand, and prussiate is also perhaps a shade firmer. In drugs there is little of interest to report, nor do the auctions which will be held next week promise to be of particular importance. Almost the only article in which there has been a genuine movement upward is ipecacuanha, which is decidedly better. American peppermint-oil is also showing signs of advance, while oils of citronella and lemongrass remain exceedingly firm. New coriander-seed is now arriving, and selling at easier prices. Cumin-seed is likewise coming in, and canary-seed is declining in value. Drysalteries, spices, and heavy chemicals are generally quiet. The alkalis show no change. Arsenic is exceedingly scarce and firm, sulphur somewhat easier, and chlorate of potash slow of sale. The artificial depression under which shellac has suffered recently appears to be wearing off. In spices the chief features are a very depressed and easier market in Zanzibar cloves. The same also applies to Cocchin ginger.

Mace and nutmegs are firmer. At to-day's auctions of varnish gums, Zanzibar animi sold at lower rates, while kowie was firmly held, and brought full rates, especially for chips. Copal and damar gums are slow of sale.

#### The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our correspondent, writing on July 3, says that *Soudan gum acacia* has attracted more attention, and a variety of sales have been made, chiefly in small lots, at prices ranging from 50s. to 70s. per cwt., the finer class meeting with the most inquiry. *Brazilian* and *Niger* descriptions have been rather neglected. In *Balsam copaiba*, owing to the comparative scarcity of *Maranhão*, greater attention has been paid to *Bahia*, and holders of recent imports are very firm at 1s. 7d. per lb., but stocks of this kind are also limited. There is no quotable change in the price of *Chilian anise*, but the holders are very firm at 23s. per cwt. for good seed. Large sales have taken place in *Chillies*, ordinary at 32s. 6d., and fine at 35s. per cwt. Four tons of *Guinea grains* sold in one line at 18s. per cwt., which marks an advance, and now holders are talking of more money. *African ginger* is the turn easier for the week, and good sound root would only realise 26s. *Canary seed* is decidedly weaker at 40s. per quarter for good *Turkish*; and the same price is asked to arrive. *Spanish* is still held for 50s. to 55s. per quarter. *Castor oil* is quiet at the prices indicated last week. *Kola nuts* are steady at prices ranging from 5½d. to 10d. per lb. for fresh to good dry. *Beeswax (Chilian)* is selling at 8l. 2s. 6d. to 8l. 15s. according to quality; and *African* is firm at late rates. *Honeys* are unchanged in values and steady. There were no bids for *Senna* and *Jaborandi* at auction, the quality not meeting with the approval of buyers.

#### The Scotch Chemical-market.

Our correspondent, writing on Wednesday, states that there is a slight falling off to be noted in inquiries for heavy chemicals generally. *Sulphate of ammonia* appears to be somewhat firmer than of late, 9l. 15s. per ton, f.o.b. Leith, being the current quotation. Very little forward business is being transacted, and generally a most uncertain feeling is held as regards its future prospects. Four hundred and fourteen tons only were exported from Leith during the past week. Owing to the continued large exports of *Chlorate of potash* to the East present prices are easily maintained, and stand at 5d. per lb., less 5 per cent., Liverpool. *Bichromates of potash and soda* are in fair demand at 4½d. per lb. net for the former, English and Scotch deliveries, and the latter 3¾d. per lb. net, with a reduction of ¼d. per lb. for f.o.b. Glasgow for export. *Alum and Sulphate of Alumina* steady at late rates. *Soda crystals* in fair request at 35s. to 37s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Tyne. *Bicarbonate of soda*: 1-cwt. casks, 6l. 15s.; 5-cwt. casks, 6l. 10s. per ton net, f.o.b. Tyne. *Sugar of lead (brown)*, 16l. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow; *Sugar of lead (white)*, 25l. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow. *Bleaching-powder* is firmer, 35-37 per cent., 6l. 15s. per ton net Tyne. *Caustic soda* steady; 60-62 per cent. cream, 6l. 10s. per ton net Liverpool; 60-62 per cent. white, 6l. 15s.; 70-72 per cent. white, 7l. 15s.; 76 per cent. white, 9l. per ton net Liverpool. *Borax and Boracic acid* without change. *Sulphate of copper* maintains a firm position, and is somewhat scarce, quotations being 15l. 12s. 6d., less 5 per cent., Liverpool. *Nitrate of lead*, 19l. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow.

#### The Liverpool Oil and Chemical Market.

Our correspondent, writing on July 3, states that the best that can be said of the market is that there is just a little disposition for more business. Altogether, however, the market lacks the vigour that was evidenced a few weeks ago, and prices are generally unaltered. *Soda: Caustic ash*, 2l. 15s. to 5l. per ton; *Caustic soda*, a fair business doing, at 7l. 15s. to 8l. per ton; *Crystals* quiet, at 2l. 10s. f.o.b.; *Bicarbonate* 7l. per ton; *Bichromate* scarce, at 3¾d. per lb.; *Nitrate of soda* steady, a moderate demand, at 8s. 3d. per cwt.; *Borax* no change. *Potash: Prussiate* still idle, at 8d. per lb.; *Bichromate* very steady, at 4¾d. f.o.b.; *Chlorate* is a steady market, at 5d. per lb. *Ammonia: Sal ammoniac* no change; *Sulphate* quiet, at 10l. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. *Bleaching powder*, no change. *Salteake*, 25s. per ton f.o.r. *Copperas* more demand and dearer; present quotation, 38s. per ton. *Sulphur* remains quiet, at 5l. 10s. for roll. *Phosphorus* no



change. The *Oil market* remains quietly steady. *Palm* rather more doing than last week, prices the same. *Olive* is in fair request and late rates are well maintained. *Linseed* quiet, at 23s per cwt. *Cottonseed*, prices well-maintained at 18s. to 18s. 6d. per cwt. *Petroleum* remains firm without change to report.

ACETANILID continues to fall. The nominal price is 1s. 2d. per lb.; but there are quotations in the market at as low a price as 1s. 1½d. per lb, net, for ½-cwt. and 1-cwt. cases.

ACID (CITRIC).—The manufacturers have not altered their quotations at all; in fact, they remain very firm at 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d. per lb., but second owners would take 1s. 1½d. per lb. *Concentrated juice* is still worth 13l.

ACID (GALLIC) has been reduced in price by the manufacturers, who now quote 1s. 9d. per lb. for crystals in 1-cwt. lots.

ACID (OXALIC).—Quiet at the long-established convention-rate of 3½d. per lb.

ACID (SALICYLIC).—Prices still continue to decline in consequence of the competition of this syndicate and the outside manufacturers. The most aggressive one among the latter has replied to the recently announced syndicate reduction of 15 per cent. by further lowering his quotations. He now asks 2s. 0½d. per lb, with the usual discounts, less 10 per cent, which brings his price somewhat below the combination quotation. At present it seems that a further reduction must be announced shortly by the convention.

ACID (TANNIC) remains unaltered at 1s. 7½d. per lb. for 1-cwt. lots (B.P. quality), or 1s. 6½d. for 2-cwt. lots.

ACID (TARTARIC).—Unaltered. English makes are held for 11½d. per lb. on the spot, and 11½d. per lb. for forward delivery. Foreign acid is worth 11d. per lb. on the spot. The shipments of tartar materials from Naples have decreased considerably in the season from October 1, 1893, to September 30, 1894, as compared with the preceding season, the figures being:—

	Half Ref. Tartar	Vinaccia Argols	Crude Argols	Wine Less
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1892-3 .. ..	1,317	2,959	2,801	2,804
1893-4 .. ..	1,266	2,396	2,236	2,676

ETHER has been advanced in price very considerably, *Sulphuric* 0.725 having gone up since last month from 28s. to 30s. 6d. per cwt. f.o.b. Hamburg. Other kinds still remain unchanged for the present at the following quotations:—*Acetic*, 0.904, 1s. 2d.; *acetic* 0.900, 1s.; *butyric conc.*, 1s. 6d.; *butyric absolut*, 3s. 6d.; *chloric sol*, 8d.; *sulph.* 0.750, 7½d.; *sulph.* 0.720, *absolut*, 9d.; *sulph. purissimum*, 10d.; *sulph. purissimum absol pro narcosi*, 2s. 3d. per lb.

BISMUTH.—On June 29 the Bismuth Convention, under stress of the competition of outside manufacturers, reduced their price for the metal by 3d. per lb. This reduction has, of course, been followed by a general lowering of the quotations for bismuth preparations. The following table shows the movements which have taken place in the article since June, 1894, when the breaking-down process began:—

	Before June 1, 1894	June 1 to Nov. 26, 1894	Nov. 26, 1894, to June 30, 1895	Present Price
	Per lb.	Per lb.	Per lb.	Per lb.
Bismuth citrate, B.P. .. ..	s. d. 6 9	s. d. 5 1	s. d. 4 9	s. d. 4 7½
" nitrate crystals .. ..	6 9	3 1	2 11	2 8½
" oxide, B.P. .. ..	9 10	7 0	6 6	6 2½
" salicylate 64 per cent. Bi₂O₃ ..	9 6	8 2	7 3	6 4½
" subcarbonate .. ..	8 0	5 5	5 0	4 7½
" subchloride (cosmetic) .. ..	8 0	5 5	5 0	4 7½
" subnitrate, B.P. .. ..	7 3	5 0	4 7	4 3
" tannate .. ..	5 0	3 6	3 3	3 1½
Bismuth metal .. ..	7 6	4 3	3 9	3 6

All prices subject to a reduction of 1d. per lb. for 1-cwt. lots.

ARSENIC.—Scarce and firm at 15l. 10s. per ton for best white powder, landed terms.

BALSAM TOLU.—In our report of last week we mentioned that 4 cases were shown at the auctions at 1s. 6d. per lb. This is incorrect, the parcel in question having been bought in without any bids being made for it at the sales. On the other hand, 11 cases of genuine tolu sold at 1s. 6d. per lb.

BLEACHING-POWDER.—Very steady at unaltered prices: London, 7l. 15s. per ton; Liverpool, 7l. on rails or f.o.b.; or for export to the Continent, 6l. 10s. f.o.b.; Tyne, 7l. per ton, f.o.b.

CAFFEINE.—Very firmly held, and almost unobtainable on the spot—27s per lb. being the nearest quotation. For delivery, 21s. to 22s. per lb. is asked.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—A considerable amount of business has been done in the early part of this week at 155s. to 157s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms, for both *Formosan* and *Japan* camphor. The transactions are estimated at about 2,000 piculs, of which 1,000 were done to-day.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—There has been trouble among the German refiners, who, being constantly undersold by second-hand holders, have dropped their quotation for *bells* for prompt delivery from 1s. 10d. to 1s. 8½d. per lb. They continue, however, to ask 1s. 10d. per lb. for future delivery. The English refiners have made no alteration. Their price is 1s. 10d. per lb for ½ ton lots in all positions. There are second-hand holders who could undersell the German price now, and still make a profit, if they cared to do so.

CORIANDER-SEED.—Declining. At auction on Wednesday 40 bags *Tuticorin* East Indian seed, dull and brown in colour to fair, sold at 7s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per cwt. The new crop of *Morocco* seed is arriving; 20 tons of it have changed hands this week at 17s. per cwt., c.i.f. Thames, for good quality. Fair *East Indian* seed slow of sale at 8s. per cwt.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Quotations from Bordeaux come higher, 63s. per cwt. f.o.b. being now generally asked, whereas a few days ago, business was done at 61s. per cwt. f.o.b. On the spot the price is higher since last week, 67s. 6d. to 68s. per cwt. being now asked for best white French crystals, 69s. to 71s. per cwt. for German powder.

CUMIN-SEED.—New Mogadore seed is now coming in and offers according to quality at from 28s. to 30s. per cwt. The new crop of *Maltese seed* is only just beginning to arrive. From 38s. to 40s. is asked for good quality.

ERGOT OF RYE.—The reports that the new *Spanish* crop will be a small one seem to be confirmed, and no quotations are at present made for new *Spanish* ergot. With regard to the *Russian* crop, it is as yet much too early to say anything definite. The current price in London is 8d. per lb. for old *Spanish*.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—A very sluggish market. Fair *East Indian* offers at 7s. 9d. per cwt., landed Thames; and for good *Morocco* 10s. per cwt. is asked.

GLYCERINE.—Exceedingly firm. One of the principal manufacturer's agents has raised his price to 51s.; the others ask 50s. per cwt. for s.g. 1.260 double distilled.

GUM ACACIA.—The picked gums are very slow of sale for the present, both as regards the *Trieste* and the *Alexandrian* varieties. In *Soudan* sorts small sales have lately been made at 50s. to 55s. for good pale soft, and 45s. to 47s. 6d. for hard amber and brown coloured.

IPECACUANHA.—A large amount of business has been done in this article since the last auctions. Fair *Carthagena* root sold yesterday at 3s. 9d. per lb., and to-day 4s. is required for it. All available parcels of *Brazilian* root have been readily bought up, at prices ranging from 4s. 2d. up to 4s. 6d. per lb. for good quality. To-day 4s. 8d. appears to be the very lowest quotation. The stock is now small, and the arrivals have also taken place very sparingly lately. Last week's steamer had only 3 packages on board.

LEAD.—*White*, 15l. 10s. to 16l.; *Red*, English make, 12l. 5s. per ton, ex ship.

OIL (CASTOR).—Best *French* castor oil is quoted at 27s. 6d., delivered in London. We understand that one of the largest firms of castor oil pressers in Marseilles are now



establishing new works especially for the preparation of *Pharmaceutical oil*.

**OIL (COD-LIVER).—**A steady market. For the moment no business worth mentioning is being transacted, nor can any considerable sales be looked for during the hot weather, but there is a general impression that with the autumn prices may considerably increase. For the present the quotations for the best non-congealed 1895 *Lofoten* oil vary from 150s. to 170s. per barrel, c. i. f. terms.

**OILS (ESSENTIAL).—**There has been some slight excitement in *American oil of peppermint* (HGH). After having been firm at 10s. per lb. all through the week it advanced to-day to 10s. 3d., in consequence of the receipt of telegrams from America announcing an excited market there at higher prices. The quotation for D & O brand has been advanced 1s., and is now 8s. 6d. per lb., net. Wayne County oil offers at 7s. 6d. *Citronella oil* is very firmly held at 1s. 4d. on the spot for fair native brands in tins or bottles, and 1s. 4½d. for ditto in drums. The prices for arrival are 1s. 3d. for tins, and 1s. 3½d. for drums, c. i. f. terms—shipment within the next six months. *Lemongrass oil* rather scarce and firm at 1½d. per oz. on the spot and 1½d. c. i. f. terms. Bids in the last-named position slightly below the quoted price have been refused. *Star-anise oil* slightly weaker—6s. 3d. is still the nominal quotation on the spot, but 1d. less would probably lead to business. For shipment 6s. 3d., c. i. f., is asked. *Cassia oil* unaltered, 70 to 75 per cent. at 4s. 6d. on the spot.

**OILS (VARIOUS).—***Linseed oil* slow of sale at 21s. 4d. to 21s. 6d., according to packing, larded terms. *Rape oil* quoted—refined, 22s. 6d.; crude, 21s.; *Ravison*, 18s.; *Jamba*, 19s. 9d. per cwt. *Cottonseed oil* lower: crude, on the spot, 15s. 6d.; refined, in ordinary casks, 17s. to 17s. 9d. per cwt., according to brand. *Palm oil* unchanged at 22s. 6d. for fine Lagos. *Olive oil*: 37s. for *Spanish*, and 33s. for *Syrian*. *Cocconut oil* slightly easier. Good to fine Cochin offers on the spot at 24s. to 24s. 6d.; and for shipment at 24s. 6d., c. i. f. terms. Fine Ceylon oil on the spot, 22s. 6d.; and for July–September shipment, 22s. to 22s. 3d., c. i. f. terms.

**OPIMUM.—**The London market remains very quiet at unchanged quotations. Good to fine *Soft shipping*, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; ditto *Smyrna*, 7s. 9d. to 9s.; second *Druggists*, 7s. to 7s. 6d.; good to fine *Constantinople*, 7s. to 9s. per lb. The supply of *Persian opium* is rather small, and holders require from 11s. to 12s. 9d. per lb. The leading opium-brokers in London have been engaged during a portion of the present week as witnesses in an opium lawsuit, of which particulars are given in our legal columns. Our correspondent in Smyrna writes under date of June 22 that the arrivals of new opium for the season have been 98 cases against 64 cases at the same time of last year. The first and second-hand stock in Smyrna on the date of writing was about 1,269 cases, and in the week before writing 28 cases of old current *Tale quale* had been sold at an equivalent of 7s. 2d. f. o. b. The holders of opium were keeping up the prices pretty well, and no material reduction was expected unless large arrivals of new-crop opium should come in.

**PETROLEUM.—**Steady, with a tendency towards higher prices. *American*, on the spot, 5½d. to 6d. per gallon. *Waterwhite*, 6½d. to 7d. per gallon. *Russian*, 5½d. to 5¾d. per gallon.

**POTASH SALTS.—***Chlorate* slow of sale at 4¾d. per lb., f. o. b. Liverpool, either on the spot or for delivery. There has been a slightly better demand for *Permanganate* lately, and prices are about 1s. 6d. or 2s. per cwt. firmer, the quotations being now 54s. to 54s. 6d. per cwt. for small; and 59s. to 59s. 6d. per cwt. for large crystals, respectively. *Prussiate* (yellow) has lately been sold at 8d. per lb., showing a slightly better market, and there is now a disposition to ask 8½d. per lb., but a certain outside brand is still quoted at 7½d. per lb. *Bichromate* quiet at 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb. *Montreal Potashes*, 22s. 6d.; best pearlshashes, 40s. per cwt. *French Carbonate*, 90–92 per cent., 19s. 6d.; *Caustic*, 21s. 6d. per cwt. *German Saltpetre*, in barrels, 20s. 7½d.; in kegs, 21s. 4½d. per cwt.; British refined, kegs, 23s.; barrels, 22s. per cwt.

**QUICKSILVER** slightly easier. The importers' price remains at 7l. 10s. per bottle; second-hand holders offer to sell at 7l. 7s. per bottle.

**QUININE.—**Rather easier. Small sales have been made this week at 12¾d. per oz. for HB brand, second-hand. B & S brand in the same position cannot easily be had below 12½d. per oz.

**SAFFRON.—**Some of the exporters in Spain have again lowered their quotations, one of them now offering best Valencia at 23s. 6d. per lb. The others ask 25s. per lb. for best.

**SCAMMONY.—**Fine qualities of scammony are very scarce and would realise good prices. The quotation runs nominally from 23s. to 25s. per lb., while ordinary grades may be had at from 13s. downwards to 6s. per lb. *Scammony root* very scarce: 36s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. is the current quotation.

**SHELLAC.—**The artificial depression of the market continued throughout part of the current week, but at the close an upward turn manifested itself. On Friday last fair *Garnet AC lac* sold at 104s., and fine second *Button* up to 121s. per cwt., on the spot. The present week opened with the quotation of *Orange TN*, for August delivery, at 126s. At the weekly auctions only about 200 cases were offered, and all bought in; but privately lower prices were quoted—viz., 122s. to 123s. for *Orange TN*, and 103s. to 104s. for *Garnet AC*. On Wednesday a sale of 100 cases *TN*, for August delivery, took place at 124s., and we close with buyers for that position at 125s. per cwt.

**SODA SALTS.—***Caustic ash*, ordinary 48-per-cent., 3l. 10s.; ditto *refined*, 5l. per ton. *Carbonated ash*, 48-per-cent., 3l. 5s.; 58-per-cent. (ammonia alkali) in bags, 3l. 2s. 6d. per ton f. o. b. Liverpool, or 3l. per ton on rails. *Crystals*, ex ship or Crescent Wharf, London, in barrels, 37s. 6d.; in 1-cwt. bags, 35s.; 2-cwt. bags, 35s. 6d.; on the Tyne the price is 35s. per ton. *Caustic soda*, unaltered at the following quotations:—70-per-cent., London, 7l. 15s. to 8l. per ton; Liverpool, 7l. 10s. per ton f. o. b.; 60-per-cent., 6l. 10s. per ton, f. o. b. Liverpool; 76-per-cent., 9l. 5s. per ton f. o. b. Tyne. *Nitrate*, dull of sale, ordinary at 8s. 3d.; refined at 8s. 4½d. per cwt. The visible supply of nitrate of soda in Europe, landed and afloat, was 309,200 tons. *Bicarbonate*, in kegs, London, 7l. 5s. per ton, ex warehouse. In Liverpool the price is 6l. 15s. for kegs and 6l. 5s. for casks f. o. b. *Bichromate* quiet, at 3¾d. to 3½d. per lb. *Acetate*, 14l. 5s. per ton, c. i. f. Hnll. *Chlorate*, 6¾d. per lb. *Phosphate*, 13l. 10s. per ton. *Glauber salts (sulphate)*, 25s. per ton.

**SPICES.—***Peimento* still remains rather dull, 646 bags being bought in at auction at 2¾d. to 2½d. per lb. for ordinary to good quality. *Nutmegs* are firmer, with a moderate business; and *Mace* keeps steady, at 2s. 2d. per lb. for good bold pale Penang, and 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. for fair to fine West Indian. *Cloves* weak and lower. The syndicate of speculators seem to have abandoned all interest in the article, and for delivery prices have declined to 3d. per lb., c. i. f., for July–August. At auction 30 bales Zanzibar cloves were bought in. Cochin *Cassia* bnds sold at auction at 19s. 6d. per cwt. *Jamaica ginger* keeps steady, but quiet. At auction 111 packages realised steady rates: Rhatoon, common to good common, 52s. to 55s.; low to medium washed, 59s. to 68s.; good ditto, 73s. 6d. per cwt. Cochin ginger is lower all round, native cut being 1s. to 2s., washed 1s. per cwt. easier; small washed rough sold at 32s. to 34s.; ordinary to bold, roughly cut, 45s. to 70s. per cwt. Three hundred cases *Cassia lignea* sold to-day at 32s. per cwt. on the spot for fair quality.

**SULPHUR.—**Rather easier. Foreign *Flowers*, 5l. 15s. *Roll*, 5 guineas per ton. *Recovered sulphur (rock)* may be had at 4l. 5s. per ton, f. o. b.

**TAR DISTILLATION PRODUCTS.—***Pitch* remains very high in price, 37s. to 37s. 6d. f. o. b. being the current quotation. *Refined tar*, 10s. per barrel f. o. b.; *crude*, 1½d. to 1¾d. per gallon. *Solvent naphtha*, 95 per cent. at 160° C., 1s. 2d. per gallon; 90 per cent. at 160° C., 1s. 1½d.; 90 per cent. at 190° C., 1s. per gallon. *Crude naphtha* 30 per cent. at 120° C., 5½d. to 5¾d. per gallon. *Creosote*, 1½d. to 2d. per gallon. *Salts*, 23s. to 24s. *Anthracene*, 13A, 12½d., B, 9½d. to 10d. *Benzo*le dull, 90 per cent. 11½d. to 1s., 50 per cent. about ¾d. less. *Toluol*, 12½d.

**WOOD NAPHTHA.—***Miscible* 60 o. p. and *Solvent* are both, quoted at 3s. per gallon.



## Summer Festivities.

### BOTANY.

THE Midland Union of Natural History and Scientific Societies held their eighteenth annual meeting at Oxford on Monday and Tuesday of this week, under the presidency of Mr. G. Claridge Druce, M.A., F.L.S., of that city. Executive business was transacted on Monday, and on Tuesday the members of the Institution had an excursion to Blenheim Palace and Stonesfield Quarries.

### PRINTING.

The staff of Messrs. Bowers Brothers, the printers, made their "annual pilgrimage" to Herre Bay on Saturday last. They had lunch at Kent Lodge, Hillborough, the residence of Mr. R. W. Bowers, and dined at the Tower Hotel at 6 P.M. Mr. R. W. Bowers was in the chair, and Mr. P. Wheatley in the vice-chair. Some lively speeches followed the dinner, "The Queen," "Our Clientèle," "Continued Prosperity to Bowers Brothers," "The Management," "The Visitors," and "The Stewards" being toasted. Songs were interspersed. The programme of the day's pleasures was produced in the usual attractive and humorous style.

### DRUGS.

The annual stocktaking dinner given by Messrs. Hodgkinsons, Treacher & Clarke to their clerks and assistants took place at the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday, June 29. The chair was taken by Mr. Gray (cashier), who was supported in the vice-chair by Mr. Richard Hodgkinson. After dinner, toasts were honoured to "The Firm," "The Travellers," "The Warehouse," and "The Counting House," which were responded to respectively by Mr. R. Hodgkinson, Mr. H. Masters, Mr. Long, and Mr. Gray. A smoking-concert followed, in which Messrs. Lewis, Gray, Maylin, Richardson, Todd, and Drury took part. The other employes of the firm paid a visit on the same afternoon to Wembley Park, where dinner was served at the Green Man.

### BRUSHES.

An influential party travelled down to Brighton by the 11.40 saloon train on Saturday last as the guests of Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons at their annual dinner. The employes of the firm had taken advantage of the annual holiday and fine weather and gone down by earlier trains, and when the guest-party arrived at the Royal Pavilion after a rapid run, a large and stalwart body of Messrs. Kent's staff were found in waiting in the precincts and garden of that well-known resort. The venue was, without further loss of time, transferred to the large banquetting hall, where an excellent dinner was served. Mr. G. Harold Kent presided, and in response to the toast of "The Firm," proposed by Mr. Lesser Columbus, and speaking of the goods they manufactured, said that quality was what they aimed at—quality would bring renewals of orders in fifteen or twenty years' time, and while he was a principal of the firm quality would be the firm's one object. The toast of "The Employes" was proposed with much kind feeling, which was evidently reciprocated in the bright speech with which Mr. C. Wood replied. The toast of "Transport," proposed by the Hon. J. Irglis, President of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, was replied to by Mr. John Dixon (L. & S. W. R.); and "The Colonies" was responded to by the Hon. J. N. Turner (Premier of British Columbia), and Sir Malcolm Fraser, K.C.M.G. (West Australia). The last toast, that of "The Visitors," found worthy treatment at the hands of the Chairman and Sir John Heron Maxwell. The guest party was photographed, and the employes enjoyed themselves by the sea till a later hour. Mr. Tindley officiated in a very able manner as steward.

### TABLOIDS.

The eleventh annual excursion and dinner of the employes of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., London and Dartford, was held last Saturday, Southsea being the spot once more selected. The route was by the London and South-Western line, and the beautiful country through which this passes was much admired by the excursionists. An hour and a half after arrival at Portsmouth the party sat down to dinner at the Esplanade Hotel, Southsea, where Mr. H. S.

Wellcome occupied the chair, being supported by Baron Roland, Mr. A. W. Gerrard, Mr. Charles W. White, of Bombay, Dr. Rock, of Haslar, and several journalists. Mr. R. Sudlow occupied the vice-chair, and the other tables were presided over by the heads of various departments. After an excellent collation Mr. Wellcome proposed that a telegram should be sent to Messrs. G. B. Kent and Sons' excursion party, and that of the Articles Club at Brighton. This was accordingly done, in the name of the 417 persons present. The toast of "The Firm" was given by Mr. Gerrard, and responded to briefly by Mr. Wellcome, who immediately thereafter submitted "The Employes." In the course of his brief speech Mr. Wellcome said:—"Since the last occasion on which we met together one who has taken an active part in the creation of this business has been taken away from us. I will not cast a gloom over your enjoyment, but I cannot at this time but call to remembrance, with the happiest memories, one who has done so much for the business, so much for you, so much for us all, and I feel certain that my words will be echoed in the hearts of every one of you." The spirit in which these words were uttered, and the silence that prevailed throughout the dining-hall gave them a pathos of far greater depth than they appear to have now. Mr. Wellcome then proceeded to say that there would be no change in the policy of the firm during his lifetime, or while he was connected with the business. He referred in grateful terms to the spirit with which the employes had worked during the past year, and said that it was perhaps the best proof of their steadiness of purpose that the business is to-day in the most prosperous condition that it has ever been, and his hopes of the future were brightened by the prospect that he had the assistance of those who had been intimately connected with the creation of the business. He thanked them for their devotion to their work, and assured them that he would always regard their welfare as much as his own interests. Mr. Sudlow, in responding, made one of his characteristic speeches, which always put his fellow-workers into the best of spirits. On this occasion it was notable that his first sentences were words of thanks to Mr. Wellcome for the reference which had been made to the late Mr. Burroughs, and Mr. Sudlow's few sentences were as pathetic as those which had fallen from the chair. As "the father of a very large family of employes," Mr. Sudlow then proceeded to speak of three things—(1) Thanks to Mr. Wellcome for their entertainment that day; (2) thanks for the continuation of the bonus; and (3) the appreciation of all that he had said in regard to the work of the employes. Mr. Searl also returned thanks very briefly; and thereafter the "Medical Profession" and the "Press and Visitors" were toasted, Dr. Rock replying for the former, and Mr. Tindall, of Baillière, Tindall & Cox, and the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST responded for the latter. At 2.15 four-fifths of the party crossed to the Isle of Wight, where they spent the afternoon, returning to Southsea in time for a cup of tea, the return journey to London beginning at 8 o'clock. A telegram was received from Vienna, just after tea, from Mr. Moser, the firm's continental representative, who sent his best wishes and greetings to the firm's employes.



FAMILIAR DRUGS.

*Taraxacum Dens Leonis* (Dandy Lion).

Meyers' Druggist.



## Photographic Notes.

BY A PHARMACEUTICAL CAMERIST.

### NEW PRINTING-PAPERS.

I HAVE been testing some samples of the new printing-papers which Wellington & Ward, of Elstree, forwarded to me. Their new factory is situated at one of the prettiest villages in Hampshire. Mr. Wellington's photographs are well known. Some of his photogravures hanging in my office are greatly admired. The "Sylvio" is a gelatino-chloride printing-out paper, giving plenty of detail, and there was no difficulty in getting good tones. The "Well-in-tone" bromide-paper is easy of manipulation. With their metol-hydroquinone developer there is no difficulty in getting good black tones. One of the papers is India-tinted, which for certain subjects give a very rich effect. The special thick is like thin card, and does well for unmounted prints. I am laying in a small assortment. Their discounts to dealers allow a good margin of profit. I give their formula for developer, as I also find it useful for other bromide-papers:—

### METOL-HYDROQUINONE DEVELOPER.

(A)					
Metol..	..	..	..	..	gr. 50
Hydroquinone	..	..	..	..	" xv.
Sodium sulphite	..	..	..	..	3j. gr. xx.
Potassium bromide	..	..	..	..	gr. x.
Water	..	..	..	..	3x.
(B)					
Potassium carbonate	..	..	..	..	5liij. gr. xx.
Water	..	..	..	..	3x.

Take equal parts of A and B.

In regard to the

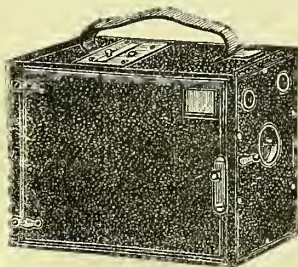
### ANTI-HALATION FLUID

which I have previously referred to (*C. & D.*, page 601), I find it better to wipe off the coating with a wet rag before development, as if a number of plates are developed in the same solution, the films are apt to get stained pink. This should be noted on the label. I may remark that labels in red ink are not easily read in the dark room: black or blue inks are more suitable.

Since I wrote the above paragraph I have received from Jonathan Fallowfield a sample of his new labels for the dark room. They are printed on transparent paper in blue ink, and are not affected either by acids or alkalies. A complete set is put up in a neat box to retail at 6d.

### THE 50s. HAND-CAMERA.

MESSRS. BARCLAY & SONS (LIMITED), 95 Farringdon Street, E.C., now carry a stock of photographic apparatus and materials, and are thus able to fill orders along with other specialities which customers may want. I have been trying their 50s. hand-camera, and am much pleased with

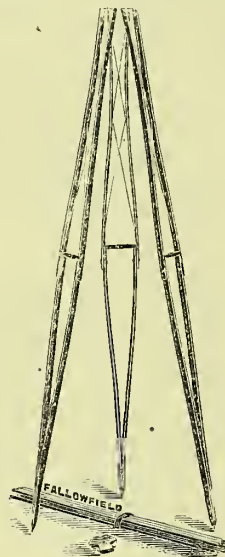


the results. It is a quarter-plate camera, fitted with a good achromatic lens, with iris diaphragm and instantaneous and time shutter. The arrangement for changing the plates is ingenious. Each of the twelve metal sheaths has at the base two wire catches, which slip along the sides of a skeleton table at the back-base of the camera. When the whole of the twelve are put in position, and the door shut a spring on the latter keeps them in position. All that one has to do

to change a plate is to push to one side the knob on the top of the camera (which may be seen in the illustration) and the front plate drops face-downwards to the bottom. At the same time the number of the plate appears as an index. The camera has two view-finders, is covered in black leather, and is as neat and useful a thing for the money as anyone could wish. The cost to the retailer is 2*l.*, but by taking three the price comes out even less.

### A NEW TRIPOD.

MR. FALLOWFIELD, 146 Charing Cross Road, W., is bringing forward an extremely light two-fold tripod-stand, which he calls "Featherweight." It is as firm as the proverbial



rock, and only weighs 20 oz. The novelty consists in the bracing arrangement of cords, which is instantaneously brought into action by pressing a central stay. It sells at 10*s.* 6*d.*

### FILM DEVELOPING.

THE second number of the *Kodak News* is even better than the first, and contains some excellent reproductions of photographs of the pyramids and other Egyptian scenes taken with the "Kodak." There is also in it a good article on the development of films. The *News* says that the secret here is to use a large quantity of solution. When dealing with roller films, cut off about half-a-dozen film exposures, and, having prepared about 2 inches depth of solution in a deep dish, develop them in that with very much the same treatment as is adopted in toning silver prints—namely, by passing them in rotation one over the other. With a succession of fairly regular exposures we have developed forty-eight exposures at one sitting in this way, with the addition of only a small quantity of fresh developer.

## New Books.

Boult, A. J. *Digest of British and Foreign Patent Laws.* Post 8vo. Pp. 380. 5*s.* (Bemrose.)

Browne, Lennox. *Diphtheria and its Associates.* Fcap. 8vo. Pp. xii. + 272. With illustrations by the author. (Baillière.)

Fock, A. *An Introduction to Chemical Crystallography.* Translated and edited by William J. Pope, with a Preface by N. Story-Maskelyne. Post 8vo. Pp. 198. 5*s.* (Frowde.)

Guttmann, Oscar, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., F.I.C. *The Manufacture of Explosives: A Theoretical and Practical Treatise on the History, the Physical and Chemical Properties, and the Manufacture of Explosives.* In 2 vols. Medium 8vo. Pp. xxx. and 792. With 328 illustrations. Price 2*l.* 2*s.* (Whittaker.)

Hertwig, O. *The Cell Outlines of General Anatomy and Physiology.* Translated by M. Campbell, and edited by Henry Johnstone Campbell. With 166 illustrations. 8vo. Pp. 382. 12*s.* (Sonnenschein.)





### Memoranda for Correspondents.

In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their views as concisely as possible.

Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.

The name and address of the writer should accompany all communication, with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.

### Pharmacy below Par.

SIR,—After reading your short leader on the above in last week's issue, I must say it is difficult to realise that this retrograde movement in an age of thirst for higher qualifications could ever emanate from, or be even tolerated by, such a body as the L.G.B., who should be the leaders in advising Boards of Guardians to obtain officers of the highest educational attainments—not the lowest—to fill the important posts of Poor-law dispensers. As the Pharmaceutical Society was formed for, and has promoted, the advancement of pharmacy, it is reasonable to expect that those who have passed its examinations are not only the most reliable qualified dispensers, but the most competent to undertake the charge of any public dispensary.

Is it an unreasonable demand for their sick, "even though paupers," to expect their medicines to be dispensed by a properly qualified dispenser? By statutory right the general public are better protected than the pauper will ultimately be, for, as the law stands at present, if any chemist should permit an apothecary's assistant or a Medical Staff Corps compounder to dispense any scheduled poison, he would render himself liable to a penalty for each offence. By a violation of these statutory rights the L.G.B. deny this protection to the sick pauper.

I hope the Pharmaceutical Society may be able to impress upon the L.G.B. that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." Curiously enough, the Board in most cases advocate replacing the old infirmary Gamp nurses with properly trained ones; hence the retrograde movement in one direction and the onward move in another is somewhat anomalous. Regarding the Medical Staff Corps compounders as men, I have nothing to say against them; as pharmacists, everything. The majority of them, as a rule, have not had that preliminary education which in pharmacy is a *sine qua non*, and, after learning in a schoolboy fashion as much of pharmacy and dispensing as the usual run of chemists' errand-boys, they pass a somewhat farcical examination. Their teachers and examiners are medical men, and not pharmacists.

If it is the desire of the War Department to find employment for their ex-soldiers, why not assist them in reverting to their original occupations, or, if worthy of it, the L.G.B. might accept them as medical officers, medical officers of health, public analysts, &c. This would give them a wider scope, and I am sure they are as competent to undertake any of the posts mentioned, as to dispense poisons for the sick poor.

The original intention of the apothecary's assistant's certificate was to permit the possessor to dispense legally for apothecaries who kept open shops or private pharmacies, but of late they have kept moving onward under the submissive nose of the Pharmaceutical Society. I think the ability of the dispenser is as important for the public safety as that of the doctor. Yet the L.G.B. would not permit the medical officer's unqualified assistant to act as his *locum tenens*.

If the Pharmaceutical Society should not succeed in getting this order rescinded, the only gleam of sunshine left is that Boards of Guardians having the right of selecting candidates will take into consideration the safety of their poor, and so discriminate between the qualified pharmacist and the unqualified army compounder or apothecary's

assistant, and by this means eliminate the invaders recommended in the new order.

Yours truly,

NE SUTOR ULTRA CREPIDAM. (85/28.)

July 2.

SIR,—If I might be allowed to comment on your article, headed "Pharmacy Below Par," in this week's issue, I would suggest that the best way to avoid having a plurality of qualifications recognised by the Local Government Board would be to confine all appointments as dispensers in public institutions under their control exclusively to pharmaceutical chemists, whether registered under the English or the Irish Act, and apothecaries.

There is quite a sufficient number of these to create a healthy competition for any post which might become vacant.

As a further evidence of how the Irish qualification is becoming recognised in Great Britain, I might also point out that, though most of the Scottish Universities have hitherto ignored its existence, under the New Ordinance, recently enforced by the Scottish Universities Commissioners, members of the Irish Society are recognised as teachers of pharmacy equally with members of the British Society.

Yours truly,

19 North Earl Street, Dublin. JAS. C. MCWALTER.

[Mr. McWalter's statement in regard to the Scottish universities is scarcely correct. The Edinburgh authorities have recognised the Irish pharmaceutical diploma for more than ten years.—Ed.]

### Cologne Spirit.

SIR,—The following formula will prove useful to some of your readers. To make Cologne spirit use ordinary 95-per-cent. alcohol prepared for use in perfumery and elixirs by the following process, which certainly removes that pungent S.V.R. odour:—

S.V.R. 95 per cent.	..	..	..	1 gall.
Powdered unslacked lime	..	..	..	4 dr.
Powdered alum	..	..	..	2 "
Sweet spirit of nitre	..	..	..	1 "

Rub the lime and alum in a mortar, add the alcohol, and shake well; then add sp. nitre. Set aside for seven days, and filter through animal charcoal.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

New York, June 4.

F. G. EARL.

### Dispensing a Methylated Lotion.

SIR,—The following incident shows how unfair competition is degrading the chemist. The following prescription was presented to me to dispense:—

Tinct. bryoniæ	..	..	..	3ss.
Chloroform.	..	..	..	3ss.
Spt. vini rect.	..	..	..	3iij.

M. Ft. lot.

I was asked if I could make it up, and, having the homoeopathic tincture in stock, I intimated I could. Then followed the question, "How much?" My calculation was suddenly checked by the announcement: "I paid 7½d. at —." You can understand the calculation did not proceed, and the business was declined. I examined the bottle (4-oz. poison) which had contained the lotion and found it had been dispensed with methylated spirit. I was then asked to dispense it with the same. I declined for reasons that, as the doctor had not prescribed methylated spirit, I did not feel justified in using it.

This raises the question whether a chemist has a right to dispense a prescription with methylated spirit when pure spirit is prescribed, and would the Inland Revenue authorities allow it? Even the doctor's sanction, I am afraid, might not exonerate the chemist.

Yours faithfully,

BECKENHAM. (76/60.)

[The Board of Inland Revenue would not be likely to allow the use of methylated spirit in such a lotion as the



above; and, of course, the prescription of a medical man could not justify the infringement of the law.]

#### The Solution.

SIR,—I venture to submit the following translation to the recipe of Mr. W. Vincent in your issue of June 22:—

Cerals Man = Oil of man  
 Erale Radde = Oil of rhodium  
 Sious time = Essence (oil) of thyme  
 Eial Wittioe = Oil of vitriol  
 Spianah di Salker = Spanish-fly tincture  
 Gar á Harbi Moth = For a horse's mouth  
 Secundem Artem  
 Price 1s. per 1-oz. bottle.

Dartford, June 22.

WALTER E GOFF.

#### Pharmaceutical Optics.

SIR,—Your correspondents who have been discussing optics recently have made no reference to the case of the chemists' show bottle, where the image is formed neither before, as in a reading-glass, nor behind, as in the camera, but on the back surface of the lens itself.

C. C. (78/62.)

[Not so; but on the screen formed by the interior of the show bottle, upon which there is an almost imperceptible deposit of matter.—ED.]

#### The Minor Men and the Pharmaceutical Society.

SIR,—In connection with the letter of "An Old Chemist" in a recent issue of the *C. & D.*, I have just come across a few remarks on pharmaceutical organisation by Dr. Symes at a meeting of the Liverpool Chemists' Association, held on April 5, 1894, and reported in the *C. & D.* of April 14, 1894. Dr. Symes said:—"If only every member of the trade could be made a member of that Society, then it would be far more powerful for good than it now is, and it would reach a position which Dr. Symes had long hoped for but which, he feared, would scarcely be accomplished in his day."

It seems to me that this paragraph exactly expresses the chief want of chemists at the present time. The greater portion of the craft are Minor men only, and why should they not be members of their own Society? The suggestion of your correspondent that all Minor men should be pharmaceutical chemists, and Major men be Fellows of the Society, is not so very startling when we consider that the Minor examination is now probably quite as stiff as the Major examination was when those who are on the Council obtained their M.P.S.—Yours, &c.,

June 26.

A YOUNG ASSOCIATE. (81/34)

#### Speciality Protectors.

SIR,—I note with satisfaction the increasing number of manufacturers who are endeavouring to protect retailers from extreme cutters. The latest addition is that of the Frame Food Company, whose circular is issued this week. The multiplicity of these protectors suggests a want to my mind—viz., a handy list of all goods which are protected, stating the minimum prices in each case.

Yours truly,

BUXTON.

#### DISPENSING NOTES.

Correspondents should consult "The Art of Dispensing" in regard to dispensing difficulties. Difficulties not explained therein may be sent to the Editor, who invites a general expression of opinion upon the under-mentioned topics.

#### Lanolin. Puriss.

SIR,—Your correspondent Mr. E. J. Loosmore I think would be justified in using lanoline as prepared for Messrs. Barrass, Wellcome & Co. by the Berlin firm, or the adeps

lanæ hydrosus, B.P., when lanolin. puriss. is prescribed, unless the intention of the prescriber be known, although no doubt there is a difference of opinion among your readers. Lanolin. puriss. we must remember, is not a synonym or an abbreviated synonym for any B.P. preparation, and herein the difficulty prevails.

If I understand correctly the meaning of the word "pure," any named substance containing anything else in addition, whether it is a better preparation, or does not interfere with the action of that substance either medicinally or chemically, such additions are from a legal point of view impurities, and to settle questions of dispute we can only fall back upon law.

Therefore, from this point of view, if lanolin. is understood to be a preparation of wool-fat, and lanolin. in the prescription is ordered to be of the purest kind, the 33 per cent. of distilled water in adeps lanæ hydrosus, B.P., and to which lanoline as obtainable from Messrs. Barrass, Wellcome & Co. purports to correspond, must be regarded as an impurity, and therefore neither of these preparations should be employed.

The adeps lanæ, B.P., might therefore be intended; but unless the large amount of water which is contained in the B.P. hydrous wool-fat would interfere with any of the remaining ingredients, I think the dispenser might use his own discretion in this particular instance and use that form of lanolin. which with the other ingredients would turn out an ointment of the best consistence, the dispenser, of course, naming the particular preparation used alongside lanolin. puriss. more solito in order to ensure uniformity when dispensed elsewhere. Anhydrous sulphate of copper as an ingredient, though probably not often prescribed, is an instance where the presence of water would make a very different ointment in appearance.

As your correspondent does not favour your readers with a copy of the whole prescription it would be unwise to attempt a decided opinion.

Brighton, June 22.

Yours truly,

J. O. (78/47.)

[It is important to note that while lanoline may be dispensed for adeps lanæ, the contrary does not hold.—ED.]

#### A Wayward Ointment.

SIR,—What colour should this ointment have?—

Acid. salicylic..	..	..	..	..	3i.
Ung. hyd. nit...	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Adeps benz. ad	..	..	..	..	3j.

M. Ft. ung.

When mixed it is a rich cream colour, but on standing becomes a slate colour. A perfectly clean mortar and bone knife were used. My customer says it is different from his previous batch, which remained a cream colour.

Yours truly,

F. J. H. (61/5.)

[We have had a sample of this standing six days without any change in colour. Some of your ingredients are at fault.]

#### A Strange Pill.

SIR,—Having had the following prescription to dispense, I should like to know what the therapeutic action of the same would be:—

Ac. oxalic.	..	..	..	..	gr. ss.
Indigo	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Aluin.	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Strychnini sulph.	..	..	..	..	gr. $\frac{1}{2}$
Conf. roseæ	..	..	..	..	q.s.
Ft. pil. Tales 80.					

Yours truly,

ED. OBRIEN.

[The pill is an emmenagogue. Indigo and oxalic acid are both reputed to have that property, and the other ingredients are aids.]

#### A Rhubarb Mixture.

SIR,—I have made mixture as enclosed prescription many times, but lately it has always settled at bottom of bottle in



quite a paste. Shaking will not move it. What is the cause of it?  
RHUBARB. (84/4C.)

Mag. calc. lev. .. .. .	5iss.
Pulv. rhei .. .. .	5iss.
Syrupi .. .. .	3j.
Aq. ad .. .. .	3viii.

[Probably the rhubarb is oily, and the magnesia combines with it to form a soap.]

#### A Salicylate Mixture.

SIR,—Would you please oblige with information regarding the following mixture?—

Sodii salicyl. .. .. .	gr. xx.
Ac. acetic. fort. .. .. .	5j.
Liq. ammon. acet. .. .. .	3j.
Sp. æth. nitros. .. .. .	5iss.
Syrupi .. .. .	5vj.
Aquam ad .. .. .	3iv.

The mixture when first dispensed is colourless, but rapidly turns a light brown. Why?

Yours truly,  
C. WILD.

[Salicylate mixtures containing spirit of nitrous ether become coloured, and in this case the liberation of the nitrous radicle by the acetic acid expedites the change.]

#### LEGAL QUERIES.

Immediate information on pharmaco-legal matters is available in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty," and THE CHEMIST'S AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

77/18. *Rock Rose*.—We have not the other label before us, and if we had we could hardly give an opinion without seeing the two bottles put up just as they are sold to the public. Even then our opinion as to colourable imitation must necessarily be doubtful. Our opinion might not coincide with that of the judge, who, it must be remembered, has the advantage over us in that he hears both sides. We may say this, however:—When a person makes a business in an article to which he has given a descriptive title, he cannot get a monopoly in that title; but others who use it should take the greatest care not to follow the original maker's style in labels, advertisements, or handbills. A Court naturally sympathises with the man whose ideas have been pirated, though it is quite well known that this piracy may be well within the law.

77/40. *R. M.*—If the Apothecaries' Society bring an action against you they will only have to establish to the satisfaction of a Court that you have been in the habit of "judging of internal disease by its symptoms and applying yourself to the cure of that disease by medicine." This is the definition of practising as an apothecary which has been adopted by the High Court, and which is binding on all County Court judges. It obviously covers chemists' prescribing generally, but the law is only put into operation in cases which are regarded as somewhat flagrant. Proof that a neighbouring doctor employs an unqualified assistant would be no defence.

79/41. *Tape Line* has a neighbour whose property adjoins his, divided by a low party wall. Some years ago his neighbour built a store at the rear of his yard (the gable of which is built on the wall in question) in which he has three windows looking out into our querist's yard, but blinded by wooden shutters which he sometimes opens out over the yard. He has also broken out several holes through the wall first mentioned to give his cattle air, from which comes a very offensive smell. Our correspondent wishes to know if he may build a wall on his side close up to the wall in question, so as to shut up both holes and blind windows. They were put there before he got the property, and he believes no permission was given for either. [If the windows or holes

respectively complained of have been there for over twenty years, the neighbours have acquired the right by prescription to enjoy light and air through them, so that our correspondent would not be entitled to build a wall shutting them out. If they have not been in existence twenty years, our correspondent can build as he suggests. If the wall is a party wall, it was a trespass to build on it without leave; but six years' acquiescence would be fatal to that point. As to the offensive smell from the cattle, our correspondent can obtain an injunction to restrain the owner of the cattle from creating a nuisance. In the case of *Smith v. Midland Railway Company* (37 L.T. 224) the plaintiff complained of the smoke and noxious vapour from the company's engines when they were being cleaned in a shed near to his mansion. It was held that he was entitled to the relief claimed, with costs. It is possible, however, by twenty years' user to obtain the right even to pollute the air; but the pollution must not be increased in the interim.]

75/19. *J. H. S.*—If you will read what Alpe says about corn-solvents, on page 92 of his "Handy-book," you will see how the line is drawn at Somerset House between labels which do and those which do not render the article liable. Yours clearly comes within the first category.

74/61. *Scot.*—If the son was maintaining the father generally, it would probably be held by a Court that he had implicitly made himself responsible for the doctor's bill. But all depends on circumstances which we cannot know about.

78/42. *Oxalic*.—The unqualified person can only sell poison under the direct supervision of a qualified person. This answers your last question. The exact definition of supervision has not been laid down. The form of the poison-book is prescribed by the statute.

80/70. *Alpha* asks:—"If the returns of a chemist's business that changed hands about a twelvemonth ago (and has been well worked since) do not come up to what was guaranteed, can a claim be made? If not, will you direct me the proper course to pursue?" [Of course, a claim can be made in such a case on the person who gave the guarantee. But is your guarantee a valid one—that is, one on which you can sue?]

81/27. *F. H.*—There is nothing illegal in a medical man being associated with a chemist in the exploitation of some speciality, and in sharing the profits of the enterprise. But we have little doubt that he could be made to disgorge commissions on his prescriptions secretly agreed upon between the chemist and himself.

69/52. *H. T. D.*—We do not think there is the least probability that the dentists will ever be able to induce Parliament to pass an Act which would render it penal for anyone not registered under their Act practising dentistry for gain, which is what some of them talk about. Certainly if any such Act were passed the existing rights of unregistered persons would have to be fully admitted.

80/58. *Petroleum*.—You complain that, although you entered into a contract with a firm of petroleum-importers to supply you with 6,000 gallons of petroleum in the course of nine months, they declined, after supplying 5,600 gallons, to deliver the residue in compliance with the terms of the contract. Presuming that your account of the transaction is complete and accurate in all respects, you seem to have a good claim. The proper course to take is to demand arbitration by the Liverpool General Brokers' Association, who are the parties alluded to in the contract clause providing that "any dispute is to be settled by arbitration in the usual way." You will name one arbitrator, your opponent another, and if the two cannot agree they will call in an umpire. The fee will probably be a guinea for each arbitrator, to be paid by the losing side. The contract does not



require to be stamped. If you like you can take the matter into Court, in which case the costs will, no doubt, be much larger, and the result probably not more satisfactory, than under arbitration. Be sure, however, that there is nothing in your correspondence with the company which can trip you up. The firm have a thoroughly good reputation for fair dealing and respectability, and we cannot imagine that they would, without rhyme or reason, repudiate their own contract.

84/16. *Corona* is in partnership in another business, which is being conducted at a loss. His partner does not pay his corresponding share. The agreement says the partnership is to be carried on for two years, and has about eighteen months to run. Is there a legal way out of it? [Under section 35 (c) of the Partnership Act, 1890, the Court has power to decree a dissolution where a business can only be carried on at a loss. We should think a judicious curtailment of the funds, by applying to the Court to appoint a receiver, would bring about a speedy dissolution by mutual consent.]

84/28. *Tenant* recounts a long history of a dispute between himself and his landlord. He says he took a house at Michaelmas with an agreement that three months' notice might be given on either side. "Tenant" gave notice at Christmas to leave at Lady Day, but landlord refuses to accept it, claiming that the notice must expire at Michaelmas, on the usual terms of a yearly tenancy. [If the agreement for tenancy is in the form our correspondent alleges (which is not usual), then the notice to quit is a complete answer to the landlord's claim for rent. The landlord's remedy, if any, is in the county court. If the notice to quit is not a valid one, we doubt if the Landlords Acts are sufficient to constitute taking possession in the legal sense. The question has, however, been the subject of a good deal of litigation. See *Oastler v. Menderson*, 2 Q.B.Div., 575; and a recent case, *Smith v. Roberts*, Times Reports, ix, page 77.]

83/53. *Meth.*—You may make the four liniments with methylated spirit, and sell them without being a licensed retailer of methylated spirit.

82/44. *Excelsior* asks:—"If a man whose income renders him liable to income-tax, but who has not been asked to pay it one year, is liable to pay for that year if the authorities make the application the next year?" [The Income-tax Adjustment Agency, of 12 and 13 Poultry, E.C., tell us (in reply) that if it is a simple case of his not having been assessed to income-tax, the answer is to be found in the Taxes Management Act, 1880, 43 and 44 Vict., c. 19, section 63, sub-section 1, which is as follows:—"Where the surveyor discovers that a person liable to any of the duties has not been assessed in respect thereof in any first or additional first assessment, he may at any time within the year following the year for which such person ought to have been charged charge the person liable to the amount which ought to have been charged within the year of assessment"; and sub-section 5 as follows:—"No charge upon any assessment of duties shall be allowed or signed unless the certificate thereof shall be delivered to the General Commissioners within the year following the year of such assessment."]

85/40. *Mac.*—The trade-mark of a preparation for chapped hands should be registered, we think, in class 3 (chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy); but to be safe it might be registered also in class 48 (perfumery and toilet-articles).

84/18. *M. G.* says:—"A neighbour's boy, 10 years old, broke my window the other day. The father at first said he would have it put right, but now refuses. Can I sue the father?" [It is one of the defects in the law of nuisances that parents are not liable for the acts of their infant progeny. The

father is not liable for the broken windows, and his promise to pay is a mere *nudum pactum*. The boy can be sued in the County Court, and that is all the comfort we can offer our correspondent.]

## MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

*Back numbers containing formulae, educational or other specific information can be obtained from the Publisher.*

*N.B.—We destroy anonymous letters. We do not answer queries of the kind here dealt with by post. We ask that separate queries shall be written on separate sheets of paper.*

66/71. *Electric.*—The elements of a Dry Cell are zinc and carbon. In a containing-vessel, generally of cardboard, is placed a zinc cylinder, and in the middle of this stands a carbon plate. The space between the zinc and carbon is filled with a jelly-like composition as under. The zinc is coated on the inner surface to the thickness of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch with a paste made as follows:—

	Parts by weight
Plaster of Paris .. .. .	25
Sal ammoniac .. .. .	10
Water .. .. .	55

The carbon is then put in, care being taken that it does not touch the zinc, and the remaining space is filled in with the following mixture:—

	Parts by weight
Powdered carbon (or graphite) .. .. .	75
Coarsely-powdered black oxide of manganese	10
Zinc sulphate .. .. .	5
Sal ammoniac .. .. .	15
Glycerine .. .. .	2
Water sufficient to make a stiff paste.	

The cell is afterwards sealed up with melted pitch, vent-holes being provided by inserting two pieces of thick wire, and removing them when the pitch is cold. There are many different makes of dry battery, but the compositions used probably do not differ to any great extent from that just given. Such cells, no matter what size, have each an E.M.F. of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  volt; but, taking into account their internal resistance (unless very large), one would not be far out in reckoning the available pressure of each cell as 1 volt, so that to light a 5-volt lamp well one would require 5 cells, and so on. Two or more similar lamps would be arranged in parallel, and would not require any more cells than one lamp; but the cells should be larger in proportion to the number of lamps. In fact, the larger the cells the greater the current that may be taken, and the longer will the current last; but, in any case, such cells are only adapted for lighting lamps for a short time (a few minutes) at comparatively long intervals. Messrs. Siemens Brothers, of 12 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W., make sets of dry cells mounted on stand, with glow-lamp, flexible cord, and push, suitable for night-light watch-stands.

71/65. *Alexis.*—The specimens you send are those of the cotton-grass (*Eriophorum polystachyon*, L.), a plant belonging to the *Cyperaceæ*, and closely allied to the bullrush (*Scirpus lacustris*). It is not uncommon in many parts of Britain; bogs and marshy moors in different parts of the country are often covered, during the month of June, with these white feathery balls. Many attempts have been made to use it as a textile; but the fibres are brittle, and will not bear twisting. Thread, however, has been spun, and a cloth-like fabric made from it; but it has never come into practical use, notwithstanding that it flourishes in land that is of little or no use for any kind of cultivation. In some districts lamp and candle wicks are made from it by the peasantry, who also use it for stuffing pillows; but, as it readily absorbs moisture, it is apt to cake. If worth collecting, it might possibly find a use amongst paper-makers.

273/36. *Carica Wahoo.*—Hypodermic Injections of Cocaine are quite safe in tooth-extraction, but you must bear in mind that now and then a person is met with whom



cocaine affects injuriously. You will find a useful article on dentistry for druggists in the 1890 DIARY.

72/35. *Mizpah*.—Aluminum soaps are added to lubricating-oils to increase their viscosity, but the practice is not regarded with favour. It is the heavy petroleum oils which are used.

72/51. *Zingiber*.—(1) Testing Ginger.—See *C. & D.*, November 24, 1894, page 763, and December 22, page 888. Ginger-powder does not sensibly deteriorate if kept in closed vessels, even for four years. If you buy your powdered ginger from a wholesale druggist of repute, and pay a good price for it, you may keep your mind easy as to the public analysts. You may have noted that no wholesale druggist has been concerned in any of the adulterated-ginger prosecutions which we have reported. *Verb. sap.* (2) A menstruum consisting of equal parts of S.V.R. and water makes a better laudanum than the official menstruum. Of course, you cannot sell such a preparation without specific explanation.

72/64 (*Rex*) and 73/25 (*Vesiculosus*).—Ext Fuci Vesicul. Liq.—The menstruum is S.V.R., 2 parts, and water, 1 part. The dried fucus in No. 20 powder is to be used, 10 oz. of it going to the pint of finished product.

72/63. *A. W. H.*—Use Aspinall's white enamel for golf-balls.

69/35. *Perpetual Peruser*.—Syr. Allii, U.S.P. :—

Fresh garlic .. ..	7 oz. 24 gr.
Sugar .. ..	23 " 96 "
Dilute acetic acid to ..	33 1/2 "

Macerate the bruised garlic in 10 oz. of the acid for four days, strain, and press. Repeat with 7 oz. of the acid, mix the liquids, filter, dissolve the sugar in the filtrate, and make up to 33 1/2 oz. with the acid.

77/44. *Regret*.—Tattoo-marks.—See 1894 DIARY, page 381.

70/40. *W. H. F.*—Harness-blackening.—See 1894 DIARY, page 367.

51/11. *W. Nelson*.—There is always a difficulty in Filtering Essence of Rennet. The quickest way, we have found, is to filter through an asbestos filter, made by placing a layer of absorbent cotton-wool in a funnel, and upon that a layer of finely-scraped asbestos. Try this with the dregs in your case. You should allow the essence to stand for ten days or so, having previously added some kaolin to it. Decant the clear portion, which does not require filtering.

62/90. *D. & P.* send some Worm-balls for Dogs prepared from the recipe of a well-known Australian vet. The large ball consists of powdered areca-nut massed with treacle, the small ball contains santolin. The quantities must be adjusted according to the size of the dog.

62/61. *Golgotha*.—Ointment for Cancer in Cattle, like your sample :—

Pulv. calamine .. ..	5i.
Arsenic. alb. .. ..	5i.
Adipis .. ..	3ij.

M. Ft. ung.

73/24. *Canny Newcastle*.—You must add either spirit or glycerine to the cochineal colouring—say, 5 oz. to the pint.

16/95. *A. D.*—Da'ziel's "Diseases of the Horse" (Gill, 1s.).

68/52. *Subscriber*.—Ammonia Dry-shampoo, which "forms a ball of lather on the head and rubs away to nothing, leaving no semblance of grease," has somewhat of this composition :—

Sapo cast. alb. (in fine shavings) ..	3j.
Ol. lavand. .. ..	5i.
Spt. vini rect. .. ..	3viij.
Aquæ .. ..	3ij.

Digest for a week, filter and add—

Liq. ammon. .. ..	3iiss.
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67/73. *Argo*.—Pomade for Scurfy Scalp prescribed by a New York specialist.—The sample consists approximately of—

Hydrarg. oxid. rubr. .. ..	gr. xl.
Pulv. bole armen. .. ..	5j.
Adipis ad .. ..	3ij.

M. Ft. ung.

67/90. *G. D. Coy* (Bradford).—(1) The Lotion for Eczema in Dogs has this composition :—

Acid. carbolic. .. ..	3j.
Glycerin. .. ..	3xv.
Aquæ .. ..	3v.

M.

As some dogs are susceptible to carbolic acid, this should be used cautiously. (2) We cannot identify this powder.

72/68. *S. Arthur* sends some Rat-poison which is being used with extraordinary success in his neighborhood. The method is to lay down ground wheat and sugar for a few nights, and then mix in the poison, which we find to be arsenic.

73/35. *R. B. H.*—(1) Oleate of Ammonia.—The solution of ammonia to be used is a mixture of equal parts of liq. ammon. fort. and distilled water. (2) Surely you know that shellac-varnish is spirit-varnish.

79/69. *Phenol*.—What you ask is impossible. In miscible tar-disinfectants the tar-oils are saponified, and the addition of acids will necessarily split up the soaps.

73/44. *G. A. G.* sends the following query :—"When a seidlitz-powder is dissolved and allowed to stand, should the result be clear or should it contain a precipitate?" [A Pharmacopœia seidlitz-powder should, on solution, give a small precipitate, the slight excess of acid present yielding a little of cream of tartar.]

70/34. *J. Pollard*.—Nut-brown Polish for Tan Shoes :—

Cere flav. .. ..	3x.
Sp. terebinth. .. ..	Oij.

Dissolve by means of a water-bath in a closed vessel, and add—

Sapo flav. .. ..	3iv.
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previously dissolved in—

Aquæ .. ..	Oij.
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Stir continually till cold. Then with each 1-oz. of cream mix thoroughly—

Nankin brown .. ..	gr. v.
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dissolved in—

Sp. vini rect. .. ..	3ss.
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The resulting polish is applied to leather with a rag, allowed to dry, and then lightly polished with a soft duster.

78/63. *Salol* (Calcutta).—March 1, 1876, is the earliest date that the Irish Pharmaceutical Licence examination was passed.

75/7. *Horace*.—Please write to the schools of pharmacy in the south of London. You will find their advertisements in this journal.



77/37. *A. W. M.*—See reply 55/50 in our issue of June 1, page 783.

75/12. *Phosphate*.—Wound stone:—

	Oz.
Sulphate of copper .. .. .	3
Alum .. .. .	3
Nitre .. .. .	3
Fuse and add—	
Camphor .. .. .	1

Sometimes sulphate of copper alone is given.

75/4. *Erica*.—The precipitate from ferric-chloride solution on the copper plate is most probably a basic-iron oxychloride.

78/8. *J. H. W.*—Aerated-water Manufacture.—We can only advise you as we have advised others—viz., to get from the makers of apparatus their book of directions. We have, in response to special requests, named several published works, but the manufacturers' books are just as suitable.

78/23. *R. A. G.*—This is the formula for Baume de Fioravanti:—

	Grammes
Venice turpentine .. .. .	500
Elemi, tacamahua, auuber, storax, galbanum, and myrrh, of each .. .. .	100
Laurel-berries .. .. .	100
Aloes, galangal, giuger, zedoary, cinnamon, cloves, nutmegs, and dittany of Crete, of each .. .. .	50
Alcohol (40 o.p.) .. .. .	3,000

Macerate seven days, and distil 2,500 grammes.

77/7. *Cremor*.—(1) It is really impossible for us to advise you in regard to the Cold-cream (1894 DIARY, page 360), because we have succeeded and never failed. Of course you must stir until it is quite cold, and will not stir longer. (2) Limes and Glycerine.—Your formula will never do. We have not yet seen a good preparation made with olive oil. The following is good:—

Curd-soap .. .. .	3iss.
Water .. .. .	3xx.
Dissolve and add—	
Nut-oil .. .. .	3xxx.
Oil of lemon .. .. .	3iss.
„ bergamot .. .. .	3iss.

Mix.

77/27. *Aniline*.—Dyeing Fresh Flowers—See *C. & D.*, vol. xl. We have obtained the best results by putting a drop of chloroform at the base of the petals (to dissolve off the wax), then touching with a c.h. pencil dipped in an aqueous solution of the dye. The tips of the flower may also be touched. There is no doubt that the immersion process frequently fails.

80/21. *Alpha*.—We do not know what Clarke's B 41 pills are made of.

77/38. *Inquirer*.—Silvering-fluid.—See 1894 DIARY, page 377.

76/36. *Minor* says he is to go in for the Minor Examination in about two and a half years. If a new B.P. comes out a few months before that, will he need to get it up? A weighty question, truly. We may, however, assure him. When the 1885 B.P. came out the examiners did not expect candidates who knew the previous standards well to be equally familiar with the new standards. This obtained for at least two examinations thereafter, but experience was that the difficulty implied by "Minor" was more imaginary

than real. It is, however, absurd to suppose that a man unacquainted with new pharmacopœial standards could fairly be certificated as a competent chemist and druggist.

75/66. *A.*—Toilet Vinegar.—This correspondent writes:—"The formula referred to contains the mistake common to all—viz., S.V.R. and acetic acid, forming in a short time acetic ether—a most objectionable flavour. Rimmel's never does this, and the formula we were in search of is one that will keep without doing this." [That ought not to be difficult. Glacial acetic acid is a better solvent of oils than spirit. For each pint of toilet-vinegar use 1½ to 2 oz. of the glacial acid; dissolve the oils in it, and add water to a pint. Distil, or filter after shaking with ¼ oz. of asbestos previously washed with hydrochloric acid. Rimmel's vinegar is probably distilled from a vinegar of herbs and other odorous substances, but we do not pretend to imitate it.]

78/58. *Eclectic*.—Horse Condition-powders.—Your "singularly efficacious" horse-powders have the following composition:—

Antim. nigr. .. .. .	3ss.
Pulv. cantharidis .. .. .	gr. v.
Pulv. aluminis .. .. .	3ss.
M. Ft. pulv.	

70/1. *I. W.*—Vapourising liquid for Destroying Insects in Greenhouses—Your sample is similar to the one reported on in our issue of November 27, 1894, page 724.

75/32. *G. S. G.*—(1) Auburn Hair-restorer.—The sample has the following composition:—

Potass. permang. .. .. .	ʒij.
Aq. dest. ad .. .. .	ʒj.

M.

(2) Brown Hair-restorer:—

Ac. pyrogallie. .. .. .	ʒj.
Liq. potass. .. .. .	ʒss.
Sp. vini rect. .. .. .	ʒss.
Aquæ ad .. .. .	ʒviij.

M.

73/67. *Dubious*.—Please repeat your query.

76/6. *Northenden*.—Dental Amalgams should be kneaded in hot water before use.

74/47. *R.*—You can make 7-lb. quantities of Glycerinum Amyli in the following way:—Heat the glycerine carefully to 220° F. over a gas-stove, and add the starch, previously mixed with the water, stirring constantly all the time, and maintaining the heat until the starch is fully tumefied. The use of an oil-bath is somewhat antiquated.

75/42. *Niger*.—See reply 48/82, page 879.

75/36. *Carboy*.—See the 1894 DIARY, page 358, for Carboy-colours.

74/17. *J. M. S.*—See page 92 of the current volume for teething-powders.

## INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor invites, on behalf of inquiring subscribers, postcard replies to the following:—

79/27. Will's Hygeia Salt.

78/51. Jenner's food for infants: where obtainable?

87/28. Bougie de Poche. London agent?